

The United Automobile Worker

UAW-CIO

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

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AFL and CIO Will Merge Next Month

See Page Three



The CIO—Glorious Rise of Industrial Unionism

See Pages Six and Seven

UAW-CIO Urges Industry:

Cut Prices on '56 Car Models

UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther urged General Motors and Ford to set an auto industry pattern of lower prices on 1956 models in a speech this month before the Adcraft Club of Detroit.

While representatives of the two automobile companies in the audience began scribbling frantic notes, Reuther pointed out that both are making profits at an unprecedented rate.

GM, he pointed out, is making profits at an annual rate of 2 billion, 635 million dollars a year.

Ford's profits for 1955 will probably equal the Company's combined profits for a 21-year period.

"Does anyone believe that that kind of an industry can morally and socially and economically justify a price increase?" Reuther asked.

"I am very worried that we are moving onto dangerous economic ground in America," he said. "The wage earners have gotten a wage increase recently. They have not realized their full equity in the fruits of advancing technology and industrial efficiency, but they made progress in the right direction.

"Industry has made progress. I am fearful that the consumer is on the short end of the deal."

WHY RAISE PRICES?

Industry, Reuther pointed out, has a habit of blaming labor for price increases to mask its own greed.

"The steel industry, historically has never given a wage increase without at least doubling the size of that wage increase in price increases," he observed, "This year, they gave the workers 15 cents an hour. Not the next day, not the next hour, but the very next minute they increased steel \$7.50 a ton and the wage increase cost \$2.50 a ton.

"Then we get home to the automotive industry. We got a 21-cent-an-hour economic package.

"That is a sizable economic package, but in terms of the economic position of our industry, in terms of improved technology and increased efficiency and automation, we knew the industry could pay that wage increase and absorb it without a penny increase in prices.

"Mr. Breech made a speech the other day in which he said that the nine months' profit for the Ford Motor Company in 1955, if projected for the year, will perhaps equal the combined profits of the Ford Motor Company for 21 years."

PROFITS ROLLING IN

Reuther added, "Then you turn to General Motors—that little Company up on the Boule-

vard. Now to understand General Motors profits—you have to take a course in higher mathematics.

"Their profits, and you always figure the relationship of wages and prices and profits before taxes—not after taxes—their profits for the year, projecting the nine-month figure into an annual figure, would be \$2,635,000,000 profit for one year—or 79 per cent return on their investment.

"For every hour in those nine months they made \$300,000 profit per hour.

"They made \$7,200,000 profit per day.

"They made \$220,000,000 profit per month—every one of the nine months.

"For every hour every dollar they paid in wages to every GM worker, they made \$1.22 profit.

"I say to Mr. Ford, and I say to Mr. Cur-tice, and I say it in all sincerity because the freedom that we are trying to defend is a mutual thing, that they ought to be willing to demonstrate a measure of industrial states-manship that would begin to lead America—not down the road to higher prices, feeding



"When you're here thirty years, they give you a waterproof watch!"

the forces of inflation, but to lead America down the road to lower prices, greater volume, to a bigger market, to more prosperity, more of the good things of life for people in every section of our society.

"Leadership must come from people who are in a position to lead.

"GM and Ford, like no companies in the world, are in that position, and I hope that they will answer the call to industrial statesmanship because this could start a basic trend and would demonstrate a sense of responsibility that would be a great tonic to America."

WARMER
Year and season
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The Detroit Free Press

METRO FINAL
★
BLUE
STREAK

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1955 On Guard for Over a Century 46 Pages Vol. 125—No. 176 Seven Cents

Gross 9½ Billion; Net 913 Million

GM SALES BILLION A MONTH

Ford Profits Skyrocket —So Do Ford's Prices

The Ford Motor Company never has shown the public a financial statement. It plans to do so soon.

Ford top brass have pretty well painted the profit picture to come.

L. D. Crusoe, general manager of the Ford Division, has observed, "Nobody in the industry has lower costs than Ford."

Since Ford's prices aren't any lower than GM's, that indicates the profit ratio is about the same.

Ernest R. Breech, chairman of the Board, backed that up in a recent speech at St. Louis. "It is estimated that earnings this year before taxes will surpass the aggregate earnings of the Company for the entire 21 years prior to World War II.

"For the nine months ended September 30," he said, "the profits of the Ford Motor Company, both before and after taxes, are greater than any total year in the history of the Company."

In the same report, Breech talked about how the consumer benefits from the free enterprise system.

Here's what Ford did to help con-

sumers on the prices of its 1956 lines:

FORD—Prices increased from \$46 to \$99 on the various models.

MERCURY—The "Big M" is costing big money—from \$57 to \$137 more than it did for the same models last year.

LINCOLN—Prices increased from \$111 to \$244 over last year.

COSMOPOLITAN—As a big consumer service, Ford re-introduced its Cosmopolitan line with a list price of \$8,800 FOB Detroit. The "FOB" in this instance stands for purses that are "full of bills."

GM's Mott Cleared Quite a Lot

When General Motors announced its projected three-for-one stock split last summer, *The United Automobile Worker* reported on the affairs of Charles S. Mott of Flint, Michigan, and Somerset Bridge, Bermuda, who owned 820,000 shares of common stock.

In the first 5½ hours after news of the stock split broke, Mr. Mott's stock spurted some \$11½ million in value.

His stock, at the time, was worth \$90,306,600.

We took to wondering how Mr. Mott has made out since then with all this talk of stock splits and record GM profits.

The last time we checked, GM stock

No corporation has ever made a billion dollars net profits in one year. General Motors is almost certain to do the trick in the one just ending. Its profits before taxes—and wages are paid before taxes—will be well over \$2 billion.

GM could have paid the full cost of the 21-cent package negotiated by the UAW-CIO for the full year—lowered the prices on its cars and trucks by \$100 and still made almost a billion in net profit.

If you want to get into the higher mathematics of it—GM workers put in approximately 374 million man-hours during the 21 weeks of 1955 before the new contract went into ef-

fect. Paying the package cost for the full 21 weeks (including the \$1.7 million extra for overtime) would have cost GM approximately \$80 million.

Reducing by \$100 the price tag on the 3,622,000 cars and trucks GM's U. S. and Canadian plants produced the first nine months of 1955 would have reduced income by \$362 million.

IF GM had done these things, its profit before taxes would have been \$1,534 million for the first nine months of this year. (As it was, GM made \$442 million more or \$1,976 million.)

Had GM paid the full cost of the package for all of the first nine months and reduced car and truck prices by \$100, it would have made \$1,534 million before taxes—\$706 million after taxes, which is taking in profit at an annual rate of \$941 million or \$100 million more than GM made in the previous high profit year of its history.

Instead of reducing costs and encouraging sales, here's what General Motors did on its 1956 models:

CHEVROLET—Prices increased from \$49.25 to \$84.25 on the various models.

PONTIAC—Prices increased from \$75 to \$90 on the various models.

OLDSMOBILE—Up \$45 to \$290.

BUICK—Cost \$33 to \$104 more.

CADILLAC—Takes from \$200 to \$300 more to drive a Caddy now.

was selling for \$46.50 for the split shares soon to be delivered we gather. Since Mr. Mott, unless he's sold some without telling us about it, will own 2,460,000 shares of the split stuff, his GM holdings are now worth \$114,390,000.

That's a gain of \$24,083,400 for the late summer and fall. In fact, Mr. Mott is now some \$35 million richer than he was before the stock split was announced.

It would take about 6,800 GM workers who made \$2.50 an hour one year of full straight time work to make as much among them as Mr. Mott made since spring by just happening to own 820,000 shares of stock before the split. And that doesn't include the more than \$5 million he will get in dividends.

AFL, CIO TO MERGE NEXT MONTH; UNITY PLANS GET CIO BOARD'S OK

The Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor will hold what is presumably their last separate conventions in New York City, December 1 and 2.

Both are expected to approve overwhelmingly plans for labor unity. The merger convention of the two bodies will begin December 5 in New York's 71st Regimental Armory.

The CIO will take its final step toward approving unity at its convention in the Manhattan Center while the AFL, at the same time, will be taking identical action in its convention at the Hotel Statler.

MEETING IN SOLIDARITY HOUSE

Members of the CIO Executive Board went over details of the merger at a meeting in Solidarity House this month. They unanimously approved merger details agreed to in meetings of the AFL and CIO Unity Committee.

Previously executive boards of both labor organizations had agreed to name the merged body, "AFL-CIO."

In the formal convention call sent out by the CIO this month, it noted, "When the convention ratifies the merger agreement, as we are confident it will, we of the CIO, together with our brothers in the AFL, will move forward as one united organization into a new era in the history of labor in the United States of America."

The call was signed by the CIO's three top officers—President Walter P. Reuther, Executive Vice-President John V. Riffe and Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey.

It noted that the convention "will provide a forum for reviewing the mighty advances of these past 20 years and for making preparations for the opportunities that lie ahead for every union in the country."

HISTORY OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

"We can look back with boundless pride to our accomplishments," it added. Some of the "steady, tremendous advances" the workers have made since the CIO was organized in 1935 were listed in a brief "History of Progress" accompanying the call.

These covered industrial unionism, wages, hours, working conditions, pensions, legislation, political action and civil rights. It added that "America gained a better standard of living for all her people—in large part because of the dramatic, militant role of the CIO from 1935 to 1955."

"Through the CIO," the call pointed out, "labor has been able to develop close and friendly relationships with other forward-looking groups in the communities of America—the farmers, the small business people, the educators, the professional people, the clergy—indeed, with all who strive for a better life for all the people."

TOWARD BRIGHTER FUTURE

"Through the CIO, labor in America has been able to play a strengthened role in the realm of international affairs. We have given our strong support to our government, to the peoples of the free world and to the United Nations in the global struggle against the evil, aggressive forces of Communism and other forms of totalitarianism. We have vigorously endorsed every constructive program of economic and moral assistance to achieve a world of 'peace, bread and freedom' to the end that poverty, ignorance and disease may be vanquished."

"So, we of the CIO take justifiable pride in our achievements—a symbol of the spirit, the strength, the good will and the patriotism of the workers of the United States."

"Together with our brothers in the American Federation of Labor, we will build, through the benefits of unity, an even better, more dedicated, more effective labor organization."

History Reversed

Newsmen covering the Canadian Congress of Labour Convention noted that the group voted itself out of existence in the same room of the Royal York Hotel in Toronto in which it was organized 15 years ago. Within that length of time it has grown from an organization of a scant 40,000 members to more than 400,000.



THE AFL-CIO DIRECTOR OF ORGANIZATION, John W. Livingston, UAW-CIO vice-president, is presented to the press by UAW and CIO President Walter P. Reuther.

Livingston Selected for Key Post In New United Labor Organization

UAW-CIO Vice-President John W. Livingston has been chosen director of organization for the merged labor movement.

In announcing the selection, UAW and CIO President Walter P. Reuther said that Livingston was "unanimously recommended by the Executive Committee of the CIO and approved by the AFL members of the Unity Subcommittee, which includes President George Meany, Secretary-Treasurer William Schnitzler and Harry Bates, president of the Bricklayers' Union."

ORGANIZING DRIVE AHEAD

Reuther added, "The choice of Jack Livingston gives real substance to our determination that labor unity will result in the launching of a comprehensive organizational crusade to bring into the ranks of labor millions of American workers who are still denied the benefits and protection of organization."

Livingston, who already is spending part of his time in Washington working on details of his new post, will direct the activities of the 22 regional di-

rectors and the organizing staffs of the merged organization.

Livingston indicated he will resign as vice-president of the UAW-CIO as soon as the merger is completed.

In a prepared statement, Livingston said, "It is with great reluctance that I will leave the UAW-CIO, the union with which I have been identified since its formation nearly 20 years ago. However, I am confident that the UAW-CIO has, over the years, developed able people who can more than satisfactorily take over my UAW responsibilities."

"It is my firm belief in the need for labor unity and my equally firm conviction that it can and will be accomplished to

Switch

SYDNEY, Australia — Marjorie O'Brien, 60, appeared before the Workers' Compensation Board here and asked for \$19 weekly compensation.

She said she suffered emotional strain, stress and worry while working as secretary for her former employer.

And who was the employer? The Workers' Compensation Commission.

the benefit of working people, the nation and the entire free world which has governed my choice in this matter."

'PRIDE AND RELUCTANCE'

Reuther told the press he announced Livingston's selection "with a combination of pride and reluctance."

He added, "It is an honor to the UAW that Jack Livingston is the unanimous choice of both the CIO and AFL for this important post in the new organization. At the same time, it is with reluctance that the UAW-CIO releases a man who has, for such a long time, served the UAW-CIO so well and with such dedication to the principles for which we stand."

Livingston helped form the Fisher Body local in St. Louis in 1933 before the UAW-CIO came into existence. He became president in 1934. In 1939 he joined the staff of the UAW-CIO General Motors Department, then headed by Reuther.

He was elected to the UAW-CIO Executive Board in 1942 and has served on it ever since. In 1947 he was elected vice-president.

Among his key duties has been director of the General Motors Department, where he played a vital role in nailing down the 1955 collective bargaining pattern. Previously he was director of the Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Departments. In 1951 he served as a member of the National Wage Stabilization Board in Washington.

Under provisions of the UAW-CIO Constitution, upon Livingston's formal resignation, the UAW-CIO Executive Board will elect, from its own ranks, a new vice-president. A special regional convention must be held to fill the Board vacancy thus created.



UNITY DETAILS came in for some close study as the CIO Executive Board met in Solidarity House this month. Here's a part of the CIO Board and staff members who went over CIO President Reuther's report at the Solidarity House meeting. The report was unanimously approved.

The Detroit Free Press

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JOHN S. KNIGHT, PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
LEE HILLS, VICE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE EDITOR HENRY C. WEIDLER, BUSINESS MANAGER

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1955

THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Nothing but Sheer Greed Behind Newsprint Gouge

So That You May Know:

AS PREDICTED some weeks ago by Sir Eric Bowater, chairman of Bowater Paper Corp., Ltd., the price of newsprint is going up. The astute Britisher, who could give most United States tycoons lessons in making money, said that the newsprint industry in the last three years has sustained a 15 per cent rise in labor costs alone.

colleagues seem determined to extract the last possible penny of profit from their helpless customers in the United States.

Business statesmanship and the exercise of restraint are lost phrases in their dictionary of greed.

What About Our Prices?

"This is not a matter of 'is the ox being gored?' It is a matter of whose ox is being gored." That was the comment of President Walter P. Reuther, as he displayed the editorial from *The Detroit Free Press*, excerpts from which are reproduced above, to the audience he spoke to at the Adercraft Club of Detroit this month. Lee Hills, executive editor of *The Free Press*, was sitting next to President Reuther on the speakers stand at the luncheon meeting and the UAW president directed part of his remarks directly to him.

For several months the UAW-CIO has been urging a congressional investigation of price increases by automobile and agricultural implement companies—without result, so far. Yet the same Congressmen who are so callous to the interest of consumers in general have a pathetically tender consideration for the daily newspapers in their complaints about the newsprint "gouge." Three congressional committees are stumbling over each other in their stampede to offer a congressional investigation of that "gouge."

In his Adercraft Club speech, Reuther said to Hills: "I suggest this is a good starting point and that you begin to write about the same kind of price increases and gouging in other basic industries."

'Pattern Plus' Package Gained at Mack Truck

NEW YORK—A 24-hour strike and 44 hours of continuous negotiations resulted in a three-year, pattern-plus agreement with the Mack Truck Corporation, it was announced by Martin Gerber, director of Region 9 and of the UAW's Mack Truck Department.

The settlement, which covers 6,000 workers in four plants in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, includes a Guaranteed Wage which covers office workers along with those in the shop, a health security plan paid for by the Company, and these other provisions:

MONEY IN PACT

- The six cents per hour annual improvement factor.
- An additional 10 cents an hour for all non-incentive workers, including office personnel.
- A 20 cents an hour wage increase for all skilled non-incentive workers, including inspectors, skilled trades and heat-treat classifications.
- An additional cent under the revised cost-of-living escalator clause.
- An additional holiday, bringing the total to seven for plant workers and eight for office workers.
- Triple time for holidays worked, and many other improvements.

The effective date of the GAW plan was delayed one year.

HEALTHY INSURANCE ITEMS

The health security provisions of the new contract include \$4,000 life insurance, plus another \$4,000 accidental death and dismemberment insurance; \$40 weekly sick benefits for 26 weeks; Blue Cross and Blue Shield surgical and medical benefits for employees and dependents, including home and office visits at \$3 per visit up to 70 visits a year. All of the above benefits

are non-contributory and paid for entirely by the Company.

The pension plan was brought up to the level of the Big Three pattern, and will be applied to the more than 600 UAW members already retired.

Permanent and total disability benefits were increased to \$4.50 per month of credited service, eligibility for early retirement was reduced to ten years, with no minimum age requirement, and deferred vested rights were included for employes with early termination at age 40.

Gerber estimated the cost of the package at more than 21 cents. The settlement, which is retroactive to September 15, covers members of Locals 229, 343, 677 and 824, who work in plants in New Brunswick, Bridgewater and Plainfield, New Jersey, and Allentown, Pennsylvania.

STATEMENT required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) showing the ownership, management and circulation of United Automobile Worker, published monthly at Indianapolis, Indiana, for September, 1955.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, 8000 East Jefferson, Detroit 14, Michigan.

Editor, Frank Winn, 8000 East Jefferson, Detroit 14, Michigan.

Managing Editor, Charles Baker, 8000 East Jefferson, Detroit 14, Michigan.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address as well as that of each individual member must be given.) UAW-CIO, 8000 East Jefferson, Detroit 14, Michigan.



WORKING OUT THE DETAILS may be difficult, but progress is being made. UAW and CIO President Walter P. Reuther, right, and AFL President George Meany were all smiles when, brief cases in hand, they walked out of a merger conference in New York this month.

False Headline In Detroit Paper Angers Local 600

The *Detroit Free Press* has been at it again. It ran a completely false headline over a recent story about UAW-CIO Local 600. Bill Grant, financial secretary of the Local, wrote a letter of protest to the newspaper's editor, charging that the headline "was completely false" and did "a grave and serious injustice to the UAW-CIO, to Local 600 and to John Dingell," a candidate in the Michigan 15th Congressional District primary.

The erroneous headline stated: "Local 600 Election Fund Bared; \$10,705 Available to Aid Dingell." The money mentioned in the headline had nothing whatever to do with Mr. Dingell and the primary contest, Grant pointed out in his letter.

"As the story itself pointed out, the fund . . . is for the cost of conducting local union elections and has nothing to do with outside political activities," Grant wrote. "Ford Local 600 and its officers have not used any Union funds to aid Mr. Dingell's campaign, although his candidacy has our wholehearted endorsement."

"The headline is an example of the kind of journalism that leads people . . . to believe that the daily press is prejudiced against labor and deliberately slants the news," Grant declared.

Frank Angelo, *Free Press* managing editor, wired a reply in which he said the paper regretted the error.

The erroneous information carried in the *Free Press* was used by GOP Senator Barry Goldwater in his recent attack on organized labor, which received nationwide publicity.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only.)

FRANK WINN, Editor. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of October, 1955. (Seal) LOUISE SARAFIAN, Notary Public, Wayne County, Michigan. (My commission expires June 8, 1956.)

Big Win in Borg-Warner Boosts Pensions, GAW

Virtually all UAW-CIO contract negotiations have been completed at the various plants of the Borg-Warner Corporation. The supplemental unemployment plan and all other features of the 1955 automotive economic pattern, including full union shop provisions, have been incorporated in the agreement, Vice-President John W. Livingston, director of UAW's Borg-Warner Department, announced this month.

Almost matching these gains in importance is the progress made at the bargaining table on the pension program. Not only have the benefits been brought to the automotive standards, but the pension plan differences which previously existed in the various contracts within the Corporation structure have been eliminated. "The Borg-Warner pension pattern is now one of uniformity," Livingston pointed out.

TEN PACTS SIGNED

Of the 12 Borg-Warner plants under contract to UAW-CIO, 11 agreements were opened during the past three months, both in

the work and wage sections as well as the pension areas. Contract negotiations have been completed in all but one. Those negotiations between Local 42 and the Morse Chain Company are in process now. The Local has conducted its strike vote and negotiations are continuing under the extension provisions of the contract.

The contract at the Borg-Warner plant in Auburn, Indiana, is open only for pension negotiation. Livingston said that the Union plans to bring the Auburn pension provisions into line with the pension pattern now established by UAW-CIO in the other Borg-Warner plants.

"The most significant factor in these negotiations," said Livingston, "exists in the fact that the Union has finally persuaded the Borg-Warner Corporation, long foe of uniformity in its various contracts, to bargain consistently into most all of the key phases of the various agreements."

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PHOTOS—James Yardley

STAFF—Russell Smith, Jerry Dale, Robert Treuer, Jim Richard
Members: American Newspaper Guild, CIO

UAW-CIO Aircraft Conference Developing Demands for 1956

LOS ANGELES—The manufacturers of the world's most modern airplanes will be given the chance to agree to modern contracts with their workers. The nature of the demands was being worked out by 200 delegates to the 6th annual UAW-CIO Aircraft Conference as *The United Automobile Worker* went to press.

The Conference, called by UAW Vice-President Leonard Woodcock, director of the Union's Aircraft Department, will draft the 1956 collective bargaining program.

DOUGLAS, NAA COMING UP

Delegates, who come from all parts of the country, are expected to pay special attention to the particular needs of aircraft workers.

Speakers at the Conference will include Vice-Presidents Woodcock, John W. Livingston and Norman Matthews and a representative of the IAM-AFL which also represents many aircraft workers.

Within smog's reach of the Conference are

two of the major targets for 1956—Douglas Aircraft and North American Aircraft. Negotiations with both begin in January.

Both are making profits at the highest level in 10 years. Last year Douglas' profits after taxes were 36.7 per cent of its net worth and NAA's profits after taxes were 34.1 per cent of net worth. In other words, both were running at a profit rate which would return the entire investment in less than three years. Profits for 1955 are expected to be at least as high.

TAXPAYERS PROVIDE PROFITS

The vast bulk of their production is for the government. Since the taxpayers' dollars provide the profit, aircraft workers believe the corporations have a moral obligation to provide 1956 standard economic and contractual conditions.

Conference delegates are expected to come up with demands which will provide the way for the nation's high-flying aircraft giants to meet their moral obligations to workers.



DODGE LOCAL 3's drop-in center for retired workers is celebrating its first anniversary in style. Jack Cousins (left) and Joe Bauer, co-chairmen of the Center, show off the elaborate birthday cake baked especially for the occasion.



BIG SMILES accompanied the signing of the new agreement between the UAW-CIO and the Packard Division of the Studebaker-Packard Corporation. The chief negotiators were, seated l. to r., Dana Norton, Packard Clipper industrial relations (second from left); Packard

Vice-Presidents Ray Powers and Charles Scribner, UAW-CIO Vice-President Norman Matthews, director of the Union's Studebaker-Packard Department, and Region 1 Co-Director Ken Morris. Also pictured are other members of the Union and Packard.

UAW Wins Pattern In Packard Contract

The Packard Division of the Studebaker-Packard Corporation has swung over to the new model in contracts with Auto Workers. UAW-CIO Vice-President Norman Matthews, director of the Studebaker-Packard Department, and UAW Region 1 Co-Director Ken Morris announced a "pattern" settlement in mid-month.

It brings Guaranteed Annual Wage protection to another 9,000 workers, members of UAW-CIO Local 190.

IMPROVED GAW

Seniority workers get extra protection against layoffs through the new seniority provisions. They can now exercise their seniority in all three Packard plants if laid off. All Packard plants are in the Detroit area.

The new working agreement also extends union shop coverage to salaried personnel. It provides automatic progres-

sion in salaried classifications, another major advance.

Matthews and Morris termed the guaranteed wage program "the best in the automobile industry." It contains more liberal appeal provisions and broader authority for the joint board of administration. Benefit amounts will not be reduced should the fund fall below 13 per cent of the so-called maximum funding level as it does in the earlier plans.

Highlights of the economic package include an eight-cent skilled trades increase, inequities, the new escalator formula (bringing one cent an hour retroactive to September 1), and a six-cent or 2 1/2 per cent annual improvement factor. All economic provisions are retroactive to August 28, the terminal date on the previous contract.

Other contract gains are the new 10 per cent night shift premium and pension provisions which match in every respect the big improvements pioneered at Ford, GM and Chrysler. Health and life insurance, sick and accident benefits, and holiday and vacation pay all have been bettered in line with the pattern.

Salaried workers received, in addition, a salary continuation plan for periods of illness and a three per cent (instead of the 2 1/2 per cent) annual improvement factor.

Woodcock Named New GM Head

The UAW-CIO International Executive Board has approved the appointment of Vice-President Leonard Woodcock as director of the Union's General Motors Department. Woodcock will replace Vice-President John W. Livingston who will leave next month to take over as director of organization of the merged AFL-CIO.

Woodcock's appointment was announced by UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther in a letter sent to all General Motors local unions. In the letter, Reuther pointed out that Livingston's resignation will

necessitate a reassignment of duties, and that the International Executive Board felt the directorship of the GM Department should be left in the hands of an International officer.

He said his decision to appoint Vice-President Woodcock was unanimously approved by the Executive Board.

"In the interim period, Vice-President Woodcock will be working with Jack Livingston so that the transition will be smooth, and the work of the Department will not be dislocated," Reuther told the GM locals.

Reuther Challenges Secretary Benson To TV Debate on Farm Problems

WASHINGTON—UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther challenged Farm Secretary Ezra Taft Benson to a one-hour television debate on causes of the problems facing the nation's farmers. Reuther's challenge came late this month after Benson continued his efforts to blame labor for the higher cost of farm equipment.

In response to Benson's recent well-publicized effort to turn farmers against workers, Reuther said, "I have always recognized the close interdependence of American workers and farmers. The CIO has always supported governmental programs to aid the farmers' position.

"Secretary Benson knows that. He should know equally well that high standards of living for city workers help promote high living standards for farmers just as farm prosperity is essential to urban prosperity.

"I have repeatedly urged a Congressional investigation of recent price increases which, for the most part, are clearly unjustified by any economic theory except gouging the public. Will Secretary Benson join in calling for such probe which would benefit farmers and city consumers alike?

"And would Secretary Benson be willing to debate the issue of whether the Republican retrogressive economic policies are the cause of the present Republican farm depression? I should be delighted to meet with him in a one-hour television debate on any network he may wish to arrange.

"When the people know the facts, they will know that Secretary Benson's anti-union propaganda is false and misleading—an effort to cover up the deficiencies of his own farm program."



"Betty! That isn't Daddy's boss!"

Turbulent, Here



THE CIO won the right of industrial workers to organize because workers stood up for their rights literally in the face of gunfire. This is the Memorial Day Massacre in 1937 when Chicago police killed 10 parading pickets in Little Steel strike.

A few months short of 20 years ago, a handful of auto workers who were delegates to the First Constitutional Convention of the United Automobile Workers, met in South Bend, Indiana, and formed the UAW.

They represented, by the most optimistic estimates, no more than 25,000. They elected their officers, voted to affiliate with the National Committee for Industrial Organization, and formulated their plan to organize the automobile industry, which, along with the steel industry, was one of the major bastions of anti-unionism in the United States.

They came, for the most part, from a few outlying and isolated assembly plants, some unimportant parts plants, some independent automobile manufacturing plants. What few delegates there were from important key plants of the giant corporations of the industry, represented such a small union membership that the managements felt secure in scoffing at their ambitious announcement to organize the entire industry.

During the week of their convention, they lived mostly on hamburgers and bunked four, five and even six in a single hotel room.

What was happening in auto, was duplicated by other heroic workers and pioneer unionists in rubber and steel and textile and many, many other industries.

STARTED BY A DEDICATED FEW

Nevertheless, they laid their plans for the organization of the workers of the industry into a democratic industrial union, whose membership would be active, articulate and informed—with a courage, determination and confidence.

The average hourly rate in the auto industry at that time was 72 cents.

There was no job security. The speed at which you worked was determined solely by the company. If you couldn't maintain the pace—thousands faltered—you were fired. When you were laid off, there was no guarantee that you would get your job back. There was no obligation on the part of your employer to rehire you. And as you approached the age of 40, it became increasingly difficult to get rehired. Once you were laid off at 40, the chances of going back to work after a layoff were remote, the point of being non-existent.

The best, and about the only guarantee you had of being rehired, was to curry favor with your foreman or higher supervisory employees by giving presents, such as a bottle of whiskey on appropriate occasions, or coming to their homes on weekends to help them paint the house, or mow the lawn, or, in many cases, just kicking back a part of your wage.



FORD SERVICE DEPARTMENT men move in on UAW organizers in 1937. In the center of the picture: International Representative Robert Kanter and UAW President Walter P. Reuther. This is the start of the famed "Battle of the Overpass," in which Ford's-hired musclemen beat up the unionists. All over America, CIO members in many industrial unions came right on back to organize the plants despite such efforts.



THIS IS A picture of Walter P. Reuther and Richard T. Frankensteen, both of them then UAW-CIO Executive Board members, after the brutal assault on them by Harry Bennett's Ford servicemen on the overpass at Gate 4 of the Rouge plant.



THE SIGN IN THE PICKET LINE tells the story of the UAW struggle in the winter of 1945-46 to establish recognition of the union, higher prices and profits. GM workers got an 18½ cents an hour increase for their earlier efforts bore further fruit when GM, by agreement with the UAW, agreed to an annual improvement factor and the cost-of-living escalator clause.



UNFRIENDLY POLICE and unfriendly courts resisted the right of working men and women to organize and bargain collectively.



ic, Wonderful History of the CIO

Furthermore, you didn't dare, if you wanted to be sure of keeping your job, to talk to your friends in the plant or even in your neighborhood about the possibility of organizing a union in order to improve your working conditions and to win job security.

Labor espionage was well enough organized so that any assertion of your right to free speech could put your job in jeopardy and could, and did, result in physical violence upon your person.

SURVIVAL OF LUCKIEST

Once you were retired from industry, there was no pension to look forward to, to protect you and keep you in some dignity and decency in the evening of your life.

If you or a member of your family suffered a serious illness or accident, you had to figure out some way to pay the hospital and medical bills out of your inadequate and irregular and undependable income—or go without medical care.

You were not a human being, a person. You were a clockcard number, a machine that could be and was discarded when management thought it was beginning to wear out.

Today the average hourly rate for a UAW-CIO member is \$2.20, if figured on a straight-time, 40-hour-a-week basis, and even higher if overtime pay is included.

CIO members today have the right to question production standards—even to strike over them. Most enjoy the right to let union time study specialists examine jobs and rates, further protection against speedups.

STATISTICS OF GROWTH

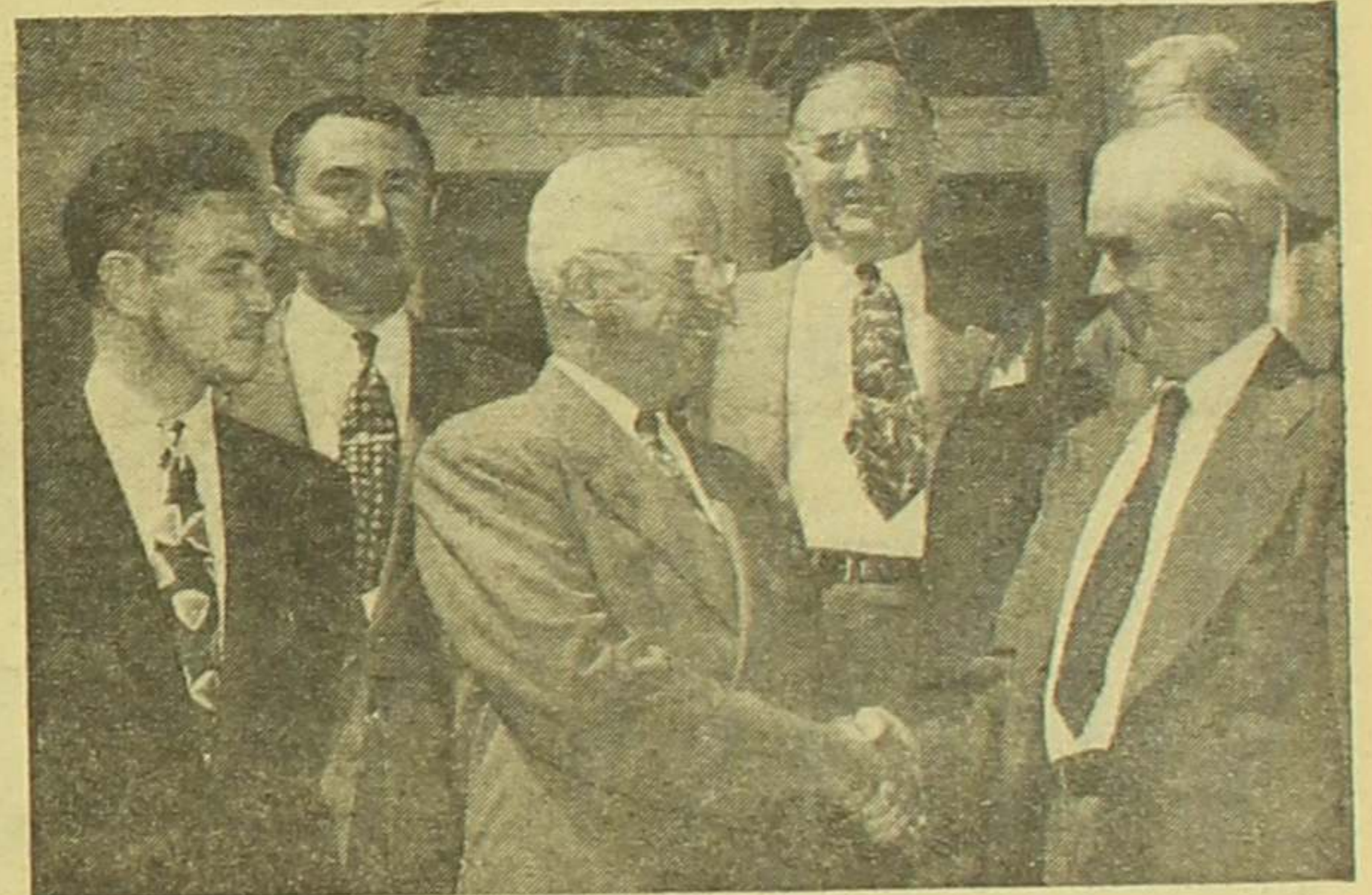
The less than 25,000 members represented by the delegates at South Bend in May of 1936 have become by 1955 a union of 1,500,000 members. With our sister unions, we now number 6,000,000.

These cold statistics, however, are insignificant in comparison to the most important fact: The CIO member today is not a clockcard number, a machine. He or she is a person, with status in the community, with a far greater measure of security than was thought possible in the early thirties with some measure of protection for the health and well-being of his family, a retirement to look forward to without fear and misgiving.

He has won for himself, through his Union, the status of a human being, and the confidence and independence and innate dignity that that status is supposed to provide in a modern democracy.



ARCHITECTS OF THAT BRIGHT TOMORROW, the late Allan Haywood, executive vice-president of the CIO, Reuther, and presidential nominee Adlai Stevenson share a happy moment at the 1952 CIO Convention where Reuther was elected CIO president.



PRESIDENT TRUMAN shakes the hand of Phil Murray after the CIO announced it supported him for re-election in 1948. At the White House for the occasion are UAW-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, Emil Rieve, president of the Textile Workers, and James Carey, lower left, president of the Electrical Workers.



MURRAY and Reuther eye future as the latter is elected president of the UAW-CIO in 1946.

THE EARLY SITDOWN STRIKES had their grim moments, but there were music and fun, too. The Bendix sit-downers in South Bend, right, along with the Midland Steel and Kelsey-Hayes workers in Detroit, blazed the way in the fall and winter months of late 1936 for the decisive GM and Chrysler sitdowns.



PHIL MURRAY takes over from John L. Lewis the gavel of the presidency of the CIO in 1940 after CIO members had repudiated Lewis' endorsement of Wendell Willkie, GOP presidential candidate, as against Franklin D. Roosevelt.

...ratoric and successful
...quip between wages,
...and two years later
...WAAW, instituted the

Kohler, Perfect Circle Foes

Congressmen Used Franked Mail To Spread Anti-UAW Propaganda

The fascist-minded Committee for Constitutional Government and two of its allies, Congressmen Ralph W. Gwinn (R., N. Y.) and Clare Hoffman (R., Mich.) are using your money to flood parts of the nation with anti-UAW propaganda.

Both Congressmen are using their franking privilege to mail anti-labor material to voters outside their own districts . . . in fact, outside their own states.

USE SAME LISTS

The same mailing lists are used by the Committee for Constitutional Government. A comparison of the envelopes shows that Congressmen Gwinn and Hoffman and the CCG are getting their mailing tapes from the same machine.

Chief grist for their hate mills are distorted versions of the Local 833 strike at Kohler and the Perfect Circle strike. Hoffman uses a long and violent attack on UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther and other members of the Union.

Both Hoffman and Gwinn are sending out reprints of their remarks from the Congressional Record. The Gwinn mailing starts out, "I wish to include a statement by the Committee for Constitutional Government, Inc., concerning the CIO strike against the Kohler Co., at Kohler and Sheboygan, Wisconsin."

Indiana was bombarded with the Hoffman, Gwinn and CCG mailings just before the mayoralty elections. Mailing costs of the franked letters from the two congressmen were paid by taxpayers.

LESINSKI INVESTIGATING

Gwinn's franked letters containing the same material also have been mailed to thousands in Wisconsin and Ohio.

Congressman John Lesinski (D., Michigan), a member of

the House Post Office Committee, has promised to investigate the Gwinn mailing for possible abuse of the franking privilege. He threatens a full-scale House investigation.

Since his statement, evidence that Hoffman is doing the same thing has been supplied Lesinski.

The mailings show additional evidence of CCG control of the Congressmen Hoffman and Gwinn. Although neither comes from the states involved, both have defended the Kohler Co. and Perfect Circle in Congress. Both carried the CCG line.

HATE MONGERS RIDE

The hate mongers have a Constitutional right to hold and voice their opinions. There is a doubt about the legality of their using their franking privilege to send them all over the country.

Gwinn, by the simple device of inserting a CCG statement into the record, has given that organization a free publicity ride. Although his mailing was printed

Capital Next

The Seventh Biennial UAW-CIO International Education Conference will be held in Washington, D. C. on April 21 through April 24, 1956. UAW-CIO Education Director Brendan Sexton announced recently.

Last year, the UAW-CIO held its Sixth Biennial International Education Conference at the Chicago Civic Opera House and Morrison Hotel, April 8 through April 11, 1954. It was the biggest educational conference of its kind ever sponsored by a labor union in the U. S., and had an attendance of some 2,600 participating delegates.

ed in the Government Printing Office, Gwinn claims it was not printed at government expense. CCG could have paid for the printing. The mailing would be the costlier item anyway.



UNITY'S AHEAD in Canada, too, and this handshake is an example. Claude Jodoin (left), president of the Canadian Trades and Labour Congress, gets congratulated for his unity remarks at the Canadian Congress of Labour Convention from CCL President A. R. Mosher (center) and Secretary-Treasurer Donald MacDonald.

Kohler Head Crochets; Kohler Talk Ricochets

SHEBOYGAN, Wisconsin—Members of strikebound UAW Local 833 here got a new look—and a laugh—at Lyman Conger, chief negotiator for Kohler Co. Conger long has been regarded as one of the chief stumbling blocks in the 20-month-old strike.

Herbert V. Kohler, president, described Conger at a

meeting of the Alabama Associated Industries. Speaking of Conger in warm tones, he told the Southern industrialists that Conger weighs "less than 130 pounds," crochets when he's nervous and goes to Alaska to shoot Kodiak bear.

He might have added that the one thing Conger doesn't do is negotiate in good faith.

Newspapers in Birmingham, Alabama, where Kohler spoke, were given copies of Kohler Co. publication blasting the UAW-CIO and told to quote from it instead of reporting on Kohler's speech.

They were told that Kohler, who has boasted under oath that he carries a billy club and approves of using tear gas on strikers, "is a very sensitive man," and shouldn't be quoted directly.

On the program with Kohler was Clarence Manion who is associated with the Committee for Constitutional Government.

* * * *

Kohler Co. announced this month that it planned to build a pottery in Spartanburg, South Carolina. They claimed they planned to double present production of vitreous china fixtures. Local 833 President Allen Graskamp estimated it would take two years before such a plant could get into production.

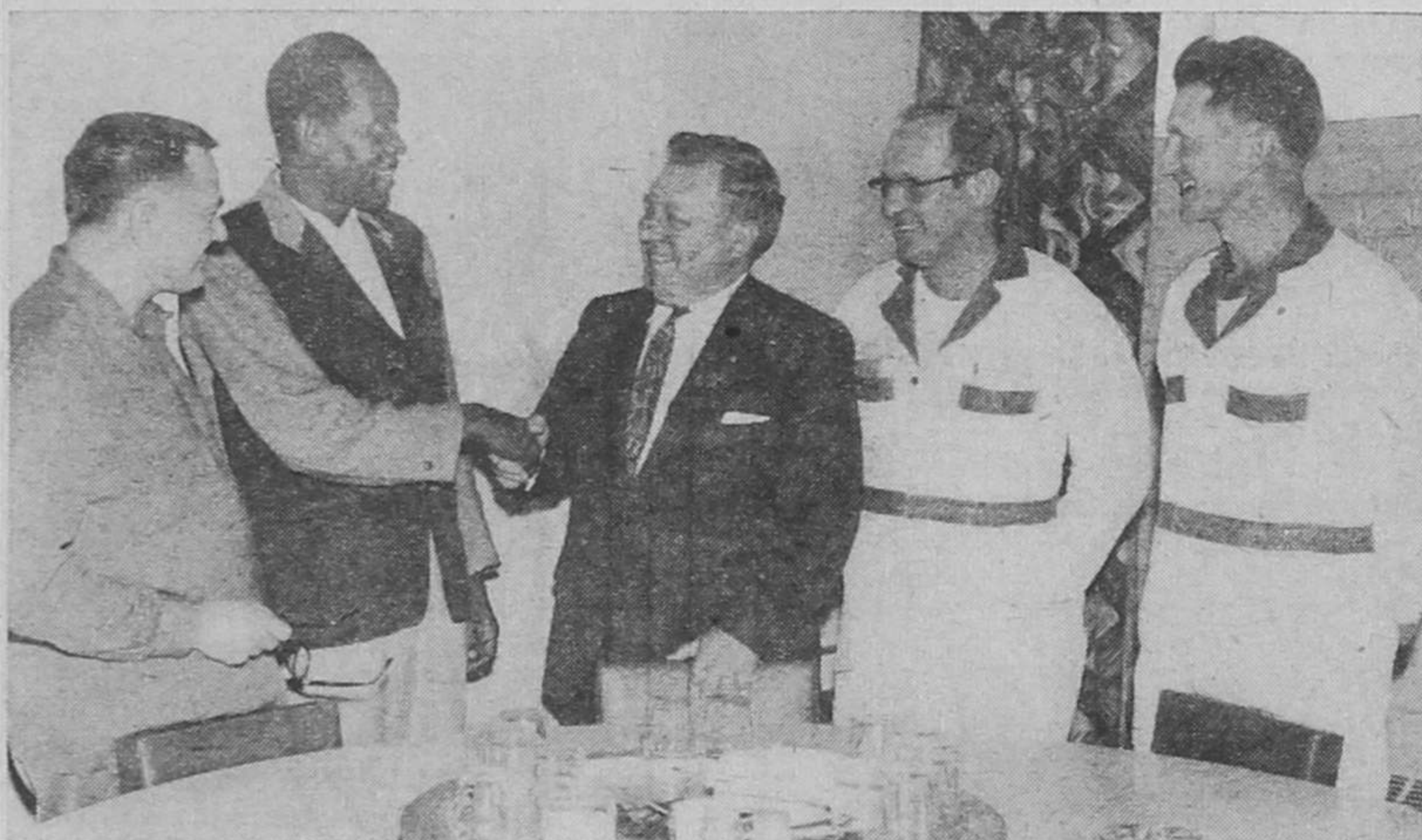
Pointing to the difficulty Kohler Co. has in selling its present scab-made limited production, Graskamp added, "If they do get serious about opening a plant in South Carolina, we'll be there to meet them."

* * * *

The hearing on the multitude of unfair labor practice charges which the NLRB has filed against Kohler Co. resumed after a 10-day recess as The Auto Worker went to press.

There now have been 70 days of hearings dating back to February 8, 1955. More than two million words of testimony have been taken. Trial Examiner George Downing and two NLRB attorneys also have cartons of evidence to consider in the case.

The transcript to date runs 10,072 pages, perhaps the longest NLRB case on record . . . all because a family-owned plumbing ware concern refuses to bargain with the workers who made the family rich.



FERGUSON AGREEMENT BRINGS GRINS to faces of negotiators because it means another package settlement including GAW, similar to AMC contract, for workers at the Massey-Harris Ferguson Company, a unit of UAW-CIO West Side Local 174. The negotiating team (left to right): Mike Nowak, Ed Dansby (chairman), International Representative Ed Reno, Frank Strawinski and Carl Erickson.

Canadian GM Strike Continues

TORONTO—No break was in sight in the strike of 17,000 General Motors of Canada workers as The Auto Worker went to press.

GM remained particularly stubborn about local problems as Region 7 Director George Burt attempted to get some thorny issues settled. At stake is establishing first-class economic citizenship for GM of Canada.

Instead of narrowing the gap between United States and Canada, GM is still offering less than the pattern settlement in the States.

Skilled Ford Workers Sink Canton Raiders

CANTON, Ohio — Skilled workers at the local forge plant of Ford Motor Company, gave an emphatic "No" to the Die Sinkers in a recent NLRB conducted election seeking to split them from the production workers. They literally swamped the Die Sinkers Conference by a landslide vote of 265 to 42, almost seven to one!

UAW-Ford Areawide Seniority Plan Brings Jobs for Laid-Off Thousands

The areawide seniority agreement between the UAW-CIO and the Ford Motor Company is paying off big—in jobs.

Between March 5, 1951, and October 31 of this year, 13,812 Ford workers laid off in one plant secured re-employment at another in the Detroit metropolitan area, figures released this month by Ken Bannon, director of the UAW-CIO National Ford Department, reveal.

Without this plan, many of the laid-off workers would have suffered prolonged layoffs before being recalled to work in their old plant.

MUTUALLY HELPFUL

The area-wide seniority-availability plan grew out of a situation caused by the Korean conflict. Because of the government-ordered cutback of production of cars and the placing of war orders, Ford was laying off workers in some plants—especially at the Rouge—and hiring and train-

ing workers at other plants in the same area.

Joint union-management discussions of this problem were initiated as a result of a letter sent to Henry Ford II by Bannon. Both sides agreed that it was uneconomical for the Company and unjust to the Ford workers to lay off experienced employes while at the same time hiring and training new employes.

Under the pact which followed, a worker laid off at one Ford plant in the Detroit area has preference in the order of his seniority in any hiring done by other Ford plants in the area.

The availability list sets up two categories of available workers: the skilled group and the semi-skilled and unskilled group. This system is administered by two

officials, one from the Company and one from the UAW-CIO.

RETAIN SENIORITY

The worker placed in another plant after a layoff retains his seniority at the old job. Thus, if he is again laid off, this time at the second plant, he can exercise his seniority rights at his original home plant.

The UAW-Ford area plan also contains a list within a list, which applies to the 50,000 Ford workers employed at the huge Rouge complex. A worker laid off from one unit at the Rouge can be placed, through the availability list, at another Rouge unit.

Plans similar to the UAW-Ford area-wide seniority plan are now also in effect in Detroit plants of General Motors and Chrysler. Thus a large number of UAW members in the Detroit area now have the added protection of area-wide seniority to help them stay off the unemployment rolls.

States with 65% of GM and Ford Workers Already OK Gearing Compensation to GAW

With less than six months gone by since the UAW-CIO established the Guaranteed Annual Wage principle in negotiations with General Motors and Ford, states where approximately 65 per cent of these workers live have approved linking state unemployment compensation payments with checks from GAW funds.

New Jersey Attorney General Grover C. Richman, Jr., handed down the latest favorable state ruling as The United Automobile Worker went to press.

(Under the Ford and General Motors Plans, benefits are payable beginning June 1, 1956, if states covering two-thirds—67 per cent—of the Ford and GM workers permit the receipt of state unemployment compensation and supplemental unemployment benefits the same week.)

So far, favorable rulings have been obtained from Michigan (which covers two-thirds of Chrysler workers), New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware and New Jersey.

No state has ruled against gearing GAW and compensation payments.

Approval from many combinations of states can provide the less than three per cent needed to put the GAW plans into operation.

MANY STATE POSSIBILITIES

Still to be heard from are 21 states with Ford workers and 12 states with GM employes.

Ohio or Illinois alone can make both plans operative with a favorable administrative ruling. Reacting to an intensive, Big Business-financed campaign against overhauling the state's unemployment compensation system, Ohio voters rejected a proposed new compensation law in a referendum vote this month.

While daily papers quickly viewed this as a serious rebuff to the GAW principle, the UAW pointed out, "We believe the Ohio law as it now stands is no different from those state laws under which favorable rulings have been issued. The Ohio law still can be and should be interpreted to permit

the simultaneous receipt of state unemployment compensation and supplemental benefits."

The defeated amendment to the Ohio law was drawn up and the initiative petition drafted in 1953, the UAW pointed out. "At that time neither the Ford nor General Motors agreements had been negotiated, nor could anyone anticipate the final form such agreements would take," the statement said.

WELL-HEELED CAMPAIGN

At the same time, the UAW viewed as "unfortunate" that the "deliberate distortions fabricated by the unholy alliance of employer groups and their paid lobbyists which were circulated by the Ohio press" brought defeat to the referendum.

Increasing the amount and duration of benefits would have helped small business and farm groups as well as workers, the UAW said.

It added, "Failure by state officials to interpret the law to permit the integration of supplemental unemployment benefits with state unemployment compensation will only penalize the citizens of Ohio. Although beginning with June 1, 1956, supplemental benefits will be paid to Ford and GM workers in adjoining states, benefits would not be paid to workers who become unemployed in Ohio until June 1, 1957, when the provisions of a substitute formula would go into operation.

"This substitute formula provides for integration of supplemental unemployment benefits on an alternating basis rather than a simultaneous basis as in all states where approval is obtained. A negative ruling would have the effect of withholding for this additional year purchasing power which would otherwise be available to the workers and therefore to the merchants in Ohio."



PETER ROBERTSON, an Oberlin College student from Clayton, Missouri, makes a point for the affirmative during a college debate on the Guaranteed Annual Wage. Bradley Reardon of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, presides.

U.S. College Students Debate GAW

From coast to coast and border to border, college students all over America are debating the Guaranteed Wage. Sometimes the discussion gets quite heated.

While some of the pro and con arguments concerning the UAW-CIO's latest achievement in the field of collective bargaining are heard only in economics classrooms, others have found their way into the college student union and the university auditorium.

The reason? GAW is this year's official topic of the nation's leading college debate groups. For example, a recent debate held on the campus of Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, saw an Oberlin debate team pitted against a team from England's famed Cambridge University.

They tackled this year's standard debate topic:

"Resolved, that the non-agricultural industries of the United States should guarantee their workers an annual wage."

Speaking for the motion were Peter Robertson of Clayton, Missouri, an Oberlin junior, and Kenneth W. J. Post of Cambridge. Opposing the motion were Marlene Haynie, an Oberlin junior from Amarillo, Texas, and John G. York of Cambridge.

We were not informed who won the debate, but we're willing to bet the "pro" side had all the best arguments, just like the UAW negotiators.

No matter who "won," it's a sure thing both sides learned more about the problems of working people.

Hope College Has No Faith Compensation's Not Charity

A survey to study the adequacy of unemployment compensation benefits, ordered by the Michigan State Legislature, is being distorted by those in charge of the study, the UAW-CIO charged this month.

Clayton E. Johnson, director of the Union's Compensation and Safety Department, declared that Hope College, which was authorized to conduct the study, had drawn up a questionnaire which does not reflect the intent of the legislators. He said the questions, instead of evoking responses relative to the adequacy of present benefits, revolve around the so-called incentives to seek other employment.

Johnson advised UAW-CIO members in Michigan who may be asked to answer the questionnaire not to cooperate with the interviewers, since the survey does not serve the purpose for which it was ordered. In a letter to all local unions in the state, Johnson declared:

"Many of the questions have to do with personal problems of the claimant which do nothing to estab-

lish the adequacy of benefits and, in fact, should be no concern of anyone except the individual concerned."

Johnson also told the locals that "questions dealing with what savings a person may have, income from other sources, and whether other members of his family have an income can only lead us to conclude that this study is designed to further the position of the National Association of Manufacturers which holds that benefits must be kept at a bare subsistence level, and that a person should be required to dissipate his savings."

Indiana Towns Set Pace Of Swing to Democrats

Democrats made tremendous gains in key states in municipal elections this month with Indiana—previously regarded as "safe" by the Republicans—blazing the way.

Forty GOP mayoralty candidates in Indiana towns were defeated as the Democrats won 72 of 102 contests. (Previously the GOP led in mayors 70 to 32.)

PERFECT CIRCLE TOWNS

Use of the National Guard in the Perfect Circle strike figured prominently in the results. In New Castle, Paul McCormack—who called for and directed guard

activities—was soundly defeated by Sidney Baker. This touched off an enthusiastic demonstration in the strikebound town.

In Richmond, where Senator Capehart had threatened a Democratic victory "means handing the city over to the CIO" Ro-

land Cutter was chosen the first Democratic mayor in 35 years.

The same week, however, a scab-loaded vote in the two Richmond and the Hagerstown Perfect Circle plants brought decertification of these UAW locals although in one Richmond plant the result was challenged. Even with scabs and some votes of doubtful eligibility, only 13 votes separated the parties.

UAW MEMBERS WIN

Showing the political tide in Indiana, in Indianapolis new Demo-

cratic mayor Phillip Bayt will have a Democratic council which includes Mary M. Francis, recording secretary of UAW-CIO Local 550.

In Elyria, Ohio, two UAW-CIO members, Charles V. Neeson and Aloysius "Al" Totter, both of Local 971, were elected to city council.

A Democrat defeated the incumbent mayor of Paterson, New Jersey's third largest city.

Significant Democratic gains also were registered in Pennsylvania, New York and Connecticut.

Testimonial Banquet Honors Pat Greathouse

CHICAGO — Region 4 Director Pat Greathouse was being honored at a testimonial banquet as *The Auto Worker* went to press. More than 1,200 guests were expected.

Principal speaker was UAW President Walter P. Reuther. Among many others were Senator Paul Douglas and Chicago mayor Richard J. Daley. The testimonial was sponsored by 15 labor, civic and human relations organizations.

A Priest's Tribute

The CIO— A Great Force For Human Progress

By Msgr. George C. Higgins
*Director, Social Action Department,
National Catholic Welfare Conference*

In view of the pending merger of the AFL and the CIO, it may be appropriate to summarize some of our impressions of the CIO and its place in the American scene during the two brief but exciting decades of its existence.

In our opinion, the establishment of the CIO in the middle '30s was one of the most important landmarks in the history of the United States. It was truly a great step forward in the development of human progress—not only in the United States but, by force of example and moral influence, in other countries as well.

One way of measuring CIO's contribution to the cause of social justice and to the strengthening of American democracy is to compare the statistics on wages, hours and working conditions of millions of men and women in the mass production industries before and after 1935. The record speaks for itself, and it must be credited in large measure to the efforts of the CIO and its affiliates.

CIO BROUGHT ORGANIZATION FASTER

Academic theories to the contrary notwithstanding, the phenomenal progress reflected in these statistics never would have been achieved in the absence of militant industrial unions. It is now generally agreed, I think, that the establishment of militant industrial unions would have been postponed, perhaps for many years, in the absence of the CIO.

In the final analysis, however, this remarkable improvement in the material standard of living of millions of industrial workers is less important than CIO's historic contribution, at what we might call the spiritual level, to the cause of human freedom and human brotherhood. We are not referring specifically to what the CIO has done, for example, to promote the cause of interracial justice. To be sure, that was a very important contribution to the strengthening of American democracy, but what we wish to emphasize in particular is the broader contribution made by the CIO to the cause of self-government in industry.

A well-known Catholic philosopher, Professor Yves Simon of Chicago University, makes this point very forcefully in a recent book on *The Philosophy of Democratic Government*. "So long," he says, "as the labor union remains faithful to its idea and keeps itself from

AFL PRESIDENT GETS CATHOLIC AWARD

For the first time, Notre Dame's Laetare Medal has been awarded to a labor leader. This annual award to a distinguished Catholic layman was presented to AFL President George Meany in special ceremonies at the nation's capital.

corruption by economic power, free from monopolistic practices, free from subservience to party ambition or state bureaucracy, it constitutes a unique means to train masses of men in self-government. . . . Over and above resistance to unfair management, labor organizations have accomplished the double feat of helping to establish discipline among masses of men and of giving such discipline the higher meaning of autonomy."

MASS PRODUCTION UNIONS NECESSARY

This is true of every labor union worthy of the name. But in recent years it would seem to have been particularly true of the mass production unions, most of which have been affiliated with the CIO. For the millions of semi-skilled or unskilled workers organized into these unions were the very people most in need of an effective means of achieving self-government in their working lives.

In the absence of strong unions, banded together in a strong federation, these workers would have been voteless citizens of the industrial community; victims, at worst, of industrial serfdom; or, at best, beneficiaries of a degrading type of paternalism. Instead of that, they are now able to stand on their own feet as mature citizens of a developing economic democracy which, in turn, is an indispensable bulwark or support of political democracy.

The CIO has had its problems during the past two decades, notably the problem of Communist infiltration. Fortunately that problem was met head-on and so far as the CIO is concerned no longer exists. There is still the problem of rank-and-file apathy in many CIO locals and internationals, but this problem is not confined exclusively to the CIO. It is the everlasting problem of democracy—how to get free men voluntarily to assume responsibility, day in and day out, for their own economic and political welfare and for the common good of society as a whole.

ON TO GREATER HEIGHTS

To the extent that the AFL and the CIO can solve this problem in the unified labor movement which, thanks be to God, is about to come into existence, they will put all of us even further in their debt. For, to repeat, a vigorous democratic labor movement—which means a labor movement in which there is active rank-and-file participation—is one of the strongest possible bulwarks of political democracy. For that reason, as Professor Simon has written, "any reform which would jeopardize the operation of labor unions or alter their essential constitution is bound to arouse the suspicion of the democratic mind."

The danger of such "reforms" is always present but, in our opinion, it should not be exaggerated at the present time. All things considered, we would expect the unified labor movement, in cooperation with enlightened management, to make gradual but steady and substantial progress in the years ahead—thanks, in no small measure, to the solid foundation established during the past 20 years by the CIO.

The CIO is not going out of existence as of December. Rather it is going on to even greater heights as an integral part of what promises to be the best and the strongest labor movement in the history of the modern world.



GOOD HOT FOOD FOR COLD MAYTAG PICKETS was provided by this strike kitchen in Local 997's new union hall. The kitchen, open 24 hours a day, was manned by women members of the Local.

Maytag Tagged for 27½ Cents After Anti-Union Campaign

NEWTON, Iowa—A bitter 67-day strike against the Maytag Appliance Company has ended in a victory for UAW-CIO Amalgamated Local 997.

Region 4 Director Pat Greathouse, who announced the settlement earlier this month, said the determination of the strikers resulted in a one-year agreement which will cost the firm 27½ cents an hour. The pact covers 3,000 workers in three plants here and in Hampton, Iowa.

ANTI-UNION CAMPAIGN

Wage increases ranged from six to 40 cents an hour, with 15 cents as the average. The local also obtained a "Ford-type" pension and insurance program, a better seniority clause, several basic changes in the incentive rules, a seventh holiday, triple time for holidays worked, improved vacations, and many other benefits. The pension and insurance agreement will run for three years.

The strike was marked by an intensive anti-union campaign sparked by the Maytag management, and aided and abetted by the Newton Daily News.

The Company and its president, Fred Maytag, have a long record of open opposition to unions. In 1938, management broke a strike with the help of the National Guard. The Local Union at that

time was affiliated with the United Electrical Workers (UE).

NEW DEAL IN NEWTON

Less than 10 years ago, Fred Maytag got himself elected to the Iowa State Senate just so he could push a "right-to-work" law through the Legislature. The law was passed in 1947 and is still on the books.

During the strike, Local 997 members received support from CIO and AFL unions all over Iowa, Greathouse reported.

Anti-union activities were not confined to Newton. In Grinnell, a college town not far from here, a UAW representative was arrested for distributing literature concerning the Maytag strike.

Despite these activities and the fact that the Maytag family controls the small city of Newton, the UAW-CIO was able to organize another Newton plant while the Maytag strike was going on. Workers at the Newton Foundry voted overwhelmingly in favor of joining the UAW. Regional representatives also organized a tool and die shop in West Des Moines during this period.



"You just got a retroactive raise, so how about a retroactive increase in my allowance?"

Maytag's Sister Sends \$500 Check To Support Pickets

The Maytag strike received national publicity late last month when the sister of the Company president donated \$500 to Local 997's strike fund.

Announcing her gift in telegrams to UAW-CIO President Walter P. Reuther and Local 997 President Bryan Dye, Mrs. Michael Revyuk, sister of Fred Maytag, declared:

"I am sending this token contribution of five hundred dollars to your Local to help meet the cost of your fight against the Maytag Company. I do this as an indication of my belief in the justice of your demands. Since Fred has always had a guaranteed annual wage, even when he was not working, I think it only fair that the employees of the Maytag Company should also have protection against layoffs."

Characteristically, the anti-union *Newton Daily News* buried the story which made headlines in papers all over the country.

Automation of Future May Produce Ulcers

NEW YORK, N. Y.—During a recent meeting of the American Management Association, Dr. C. R. Walker, director of Pittsburgh's Industrial Hygiene Foundation, predicted that automation may produce ulcers among workers of the future.

"Automation," said Dr. Walker, "will relieve human beings of the dirty, unpleasant jobs and the backbreaking labor. . . ." But, he warned, "The highest incidence of gastric ulcers today is in the hourly-wage group and among machinists who probably exert less physical effort than most mill workers" just watching and controlling machines with their finger tips.



"OH SURE, YOU GET A PENSION FROM THIS COMPANY. THEY EVEN HELP YOU AGE QUICKLY!"



UAW Skilled Tradesmen Expose Splinter Groups

UAW-CIO skilled trades leaders attending the Union's International Skilled Trades Council meeting held in Detroit's Fort Shelby Hotel unanimously condemned so-called "societies" and other splinter groups who "would destroy the strength and solidarity of our Union by separating" skilled and production workers "and attempting to pit one group against another."

More than 150 delegates and fraternal delegates from all over America took an active part in the two-day quarterly conference. They represented approximately 250,000 skilled workers in the UAW-CIO.

Expressing complete loyalty to the UAW-CIO and the principles of industrial unionism for which it stands, the skilled tradesmen unanimously adopted a resolution which pointed out, "As a strong industrial Union, the UAW-CIO has won many gains for the skilled workers."

MATTHEWS CITES PROGRESS

UAW Vice-President Norman Matthews reviewed the history of gains made by skilled UAW-CIO workers over the years. Matthews is a member of the IEB three-man Skilled Trades Committee as well as director of the Chrysler and Office Workers Departments.

Soundly criticizing those who belittled the skilled workers' gains in the UAW, the UAW veep stated that these individuals didn't "know where we've come from and where we're going to."

Others who addressed the skilled trades delegates were Joe McCusker, co-director of Region 1A and a member of the IEB Skilled Trades Committee; Senator Pat MacNamara (D.) of Michigan.

Vice-President Richard Gosser, director of the UAW Skilled Trades Department and chairman of the IEB Skilled Trades Committee, was unable to be present due to an illness.

WHAT UAW HAS WON

The meat of the resolution on splinter groups spelled out gains won by the Union for skilled workers. They include:

- the highest wages in the world for comparable work
- pay insurance against rising prices plus automatic annual wage boosts
- highest pensions for skilled workers anywhere
- paid holidays and vacations, plus working conditions and health insurance unmatched by any craft union
- guaranteed wages
- apprenticeship program and journeyman card accepted by hundreds of corporations including the Big Three
- and a program protecting skilled workers' gains if they move to another shop.

In its final resolve, the resolution called upon affiliated locals and the International Union "to invoke any and all provisions of the Local Union By-Laws and the International Constitution to combat those individuals and groups who are intent upon destruction of the UAW-CIO and all it stands for, by sponsoring splinter groups.

SKILLED TRADESMEN CONDEMN "SOCIETIES," pledge loyalty to UAW-CIO and industrial union principles in resolution unanimously adopted during two-day conference of International Skilled Trades Council held at Detroit's Fort Shelby Hotel. Here are (seated, l to r.) Robert Wortz, Local 1183, Newark, Delaware; UAW Vice-President Norman Matthews, member of IEB three-man Skilled Trades Committee; James Steward, Local 662, Anderson, Ind.; (standing): Arthur Schmidt, Local 75, Milwaukee; Louis Budnik, Local 59, Chicago; Council Vice-President Roy Hartzell, Local 25, St. Louis; and John Skidmore, Local 200, Windsor, Canada.

UAW Demands U. S. Action To Back Civil Rights in South

GREENWOOD, Mississippi—A Leflore County grand jury this month refused to indict two white men on charges of kidnaping Emmett Louis Till, a 14-year-old Negro from Chicago. The men, Roy Bryant and J. W. Milam, had previously been acquitted of murder charges in the same case.

They had been accused of the kidnap-murder after they had admitted taking Till from the farm home of his uncle because he had allegedly wolf-whistled at Bryant's wife. Till's body was found later at the bottom of the Tallahatchie River.

CONGRESS SHOULD ACT

About 30 newsmen and photographers were the only spectators around when the 21-member, all-white, all-male grand jury brought in its "no bill" verdict.

The Till case has shocked UAW-CIO members all over the country.

Reflecting the feeling of the membership, the UAW's International Executive Board issued a statement calling on the federal government to stop these violations of civil rights and civil liberties.

The Board called for prompt enactment of legislation at the opening of the second session of the 84th Congress to provide for the immediate intervention of the Criminal Division of the U. S. Department of Justice in such cases.

The Board denounced the Till murder and two other recent murders of Negroes as "crimes against democracy and humanity."

\$5,000 CONTRIBUTION

In addition to calling on UAW members to write to their Congressmen to urge immediate action on civil rights legislation, the Board authorized donation of \$5,000 to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's "Fight for Freedom Fund." This is in addition to the Union's annual \$3,500 contribution to the NAACP.

The UAW blasted Congress and the Administration for failing to act on civil rights and announced that the International Union is taking steps to broaden its own program in the fight for civil rights by expanding and enlarging the field staff of its Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department.

Out West, Anyway

Former President Harry Truman apparently doesn't think the Republican Party plans to stop making false promises. Last month he observed, "I notice the Republicans are holding their nominating convention at the Cow Palace in San Francisco. When they come out, it'll be the 'Bull Palace.'"

Beauty Sees Beast; Beast Spies Beauty—



KATO

UAW Man Finds Miss Belgium— Wins Her Hand

LONG BEACH, California—Some young men whistle at pretty girls—and get ignored. Others, like Ted Lake, a member of UAW-CIO Local 148, trust in fate and good fortune falls in their lap.

Because Lake, who works in the Douglas Aircraft plant here, strolled hand-in-hand with his pet gibbon, Kato, into a Long Beach hotel he's going to marry Miss Belgium, one of the prettiest lovelies in the Miss Universe contest here last year.

Miss Belgium, who is Nicole DeMeyer of Ghent, likes animals. Kato instantly liked Miss Belgium. In less time than it takes to say "Golly," Miss Belgium crossed the lobby and began shaking hands with Kato. A Hollywood photographer instantly moved in for a "Beauty and the Beast" shot.

BEAUTY, BEAUTY EVERYWHERE

In less time than it takes to catch your breath, Lake was surrounded by beauty queens from around the world, press agents, photographers, Miss DeMeyer, Miss DeMeyer's uncle, and Kato.



TED LAKE

Miss DeMeyer speaks only French and Dutch and Lake speaks only English (and Kato speaks only gibbon), but the camera and, as it turns out, love speak a universal language so in practically no time at all, Lake and his pet monkey were on the beach surrounded by the world's loveliest women while the Miss Universe photography cult snapped away.

Naturally, Lake, a bachelor, found no serious reason to object to these goings on. Miss Belgium, naturally, wanted to thank Kato's owner for permitting the pictures. Lake didn't understand the language, but he got the idea.

He sent Miss DeMeyer a postcard thanking her for her



MISS BELGIUM—NICOLE DEMEYER

courteous attention and sent her a little corsage. She replied with a thank you note.

Now Nicole is 20. She is 5 feet 4 and weighs 115 pounds and has the 36-24-36 qualifications for Miss Universe. Her thank you note was nothing to be ignored.

When she returned to Long Beach, Lake and Kato began showing her about Southern California. Then Lake began escorting her without Kato. Two months later they were engaged.

Now Miss DeMeyer is back in Belgium shopping for her trousseau. She plans to return to California early next year. Her mother plans to come with her if enough money is found to finance both passages.

Before she left, Nicole explained, in French, that she was attracted to Lake because he was a gentleman... "not what you call a wolf."

However, she is not so sure about Kato.

UAW Asks Dismissal Of PAC Indictment

Attorneys for the International Union, UAW-CIO, have filed a motion in United States District Court in Detroit, asking for a dismissal of the Union's indictment on charges of Taft-Hartley Law violations.

Harold A. Craneheld, UAW General Counsel, and Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., UAW Washing-

ton attorney, asked for the dismissal on the grounds that the law does not prohibit expenditure of union funds for broadcasts which endorse candidates for federal office.

They also moved for dismissal on the grounds that the government's interpretation of the law is unconstitutional and that the indictment is vague and indefinite.

AGAINST BASIC RIGHTS

They told the Court that the law, as applied by the Administration, would violate the First, Fifth, Sixth, Ninth, Tenth and Seventeenth Amendments of the United States Constitution, as well as Article One of the Constitution.

Specifically, the attorneys said the Taft-Hartley Act provisions involved, as construed by the government:

- Abridge freedom of speech and of the press, the right to assemble and to petition the government for redress of grievances.
- Abridge the right of the Union and its members to choose their representatives in Congress.
- Discriminate against unions and union members, by creating an arbitrary and unlawful classification.
- Deprive the Union and its members of liberty and property without due process of law, and are arbitrary and capricious.
- Are vague and indefinite and fail to provide a reasonably ascertainable standard of guilt.

● Infringe rights guaranteed by the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the Constitution, which reserve to the states powers not specifically delegated to the federal government.

HITS ONLY LABOR

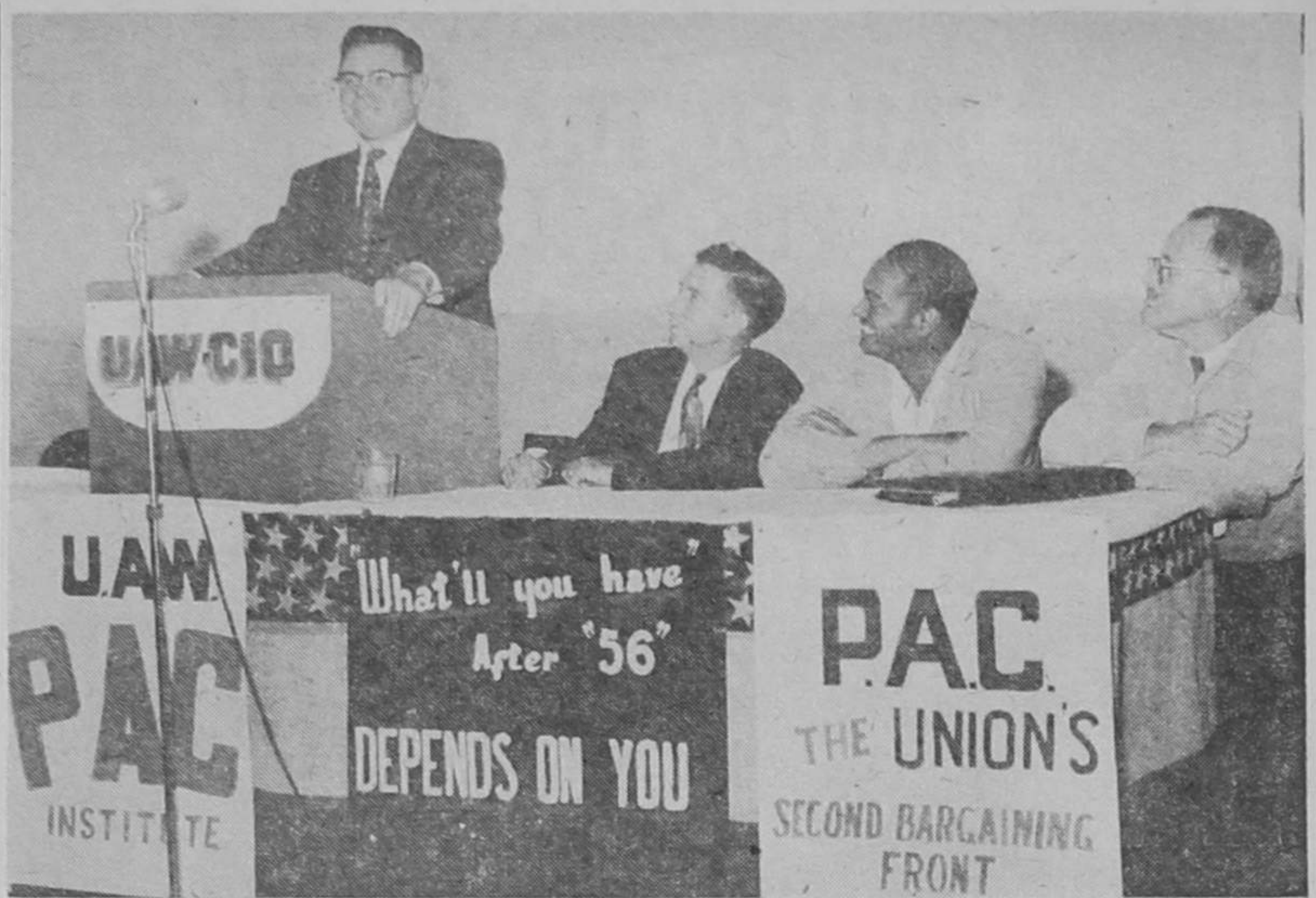
Discussing the motion, Craneheld pointed out that the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law, under which the indictment was procured, specifically attack unions but not other voluntary or unincorporated associations which may be spending millions for lobbying or electioneering. He said the act made it legal for all except unions, and is therefore discriminatory.

Craneheld also charged that the law was "so broad and vague" that no one knows what it forbids and what it allows.

The indictment, handed down July 20, charged the UAW-CIO with violating the Taft-Hartley Act because television broadcasts paid for by the Union supported the candidacy of U. S. Senator Patrick V. McNamara, Michigan Democrat, in the 1954 primary and general elections.

Renamed to College Post

BRISTOL, Connecticut—UAW-CIO International Representative Merlin D. Bishop has been reappointed to a new term on the board of governors of the University of Connecticut. Bishop, who heads the Region 9A sub-regional office here, was the UAW's first director of education.



PROBABLE CAMPAIGN ISSUES FOR '56 got a thorough airing at this Region 4 political education institute held recently at the Union Center in Ottawa, Illinois. Speakers are, l. to r., Roy Reuther, the UAW's PAC coordinator; Education and PAC Representatives Charles Johnston and Willoughby Abner and Paul Sifton of the UAW-CIO Washington office. More than 100 local union leaders attended.

What's a Few Million ... More or Less?

NEW YORK CITY—During a recent stockholders' hearing before the American Bar Association, multi-millionaire Clinton W. Murchison, Texas oil tycoon and union-hater de luxe, forgot a few millions of his fortune. One day Murchison testified he was worth about "\$5 million, \$6 million or \$7 million." Next day, on being called back he confessed to gains of more than \$30 million.

"You can't expect a big man

United Labor Pinches Buster Brown's Shoes

Two big companies found out where the shoe pinches when 26,000 workers walked out in support of contract demands. In the latest display of labor unity, the workers, members of the CIO United Shoe Workers and the AFL Boot and Shoe Workers, struck the Brown Shoe Com-

pany and the International Shoe Company.

The firms are two of the largest in the industry, making the combined strike the biggest in that industry's history, management spokesmen conceded. The walk-outs shut 41 International Shoe plants and 20 Brown plants.

Officers of the two striking unions said the average wage of workers in these plants is \$1.20 an hour. The Unions seek a two-year contract with a 12 per cent wage increase.

'Eye Opener' Stays In Tune With Times



Your local or area radio station probably carries the UAW-CIO's popular early-morning program, "Eye Opener."

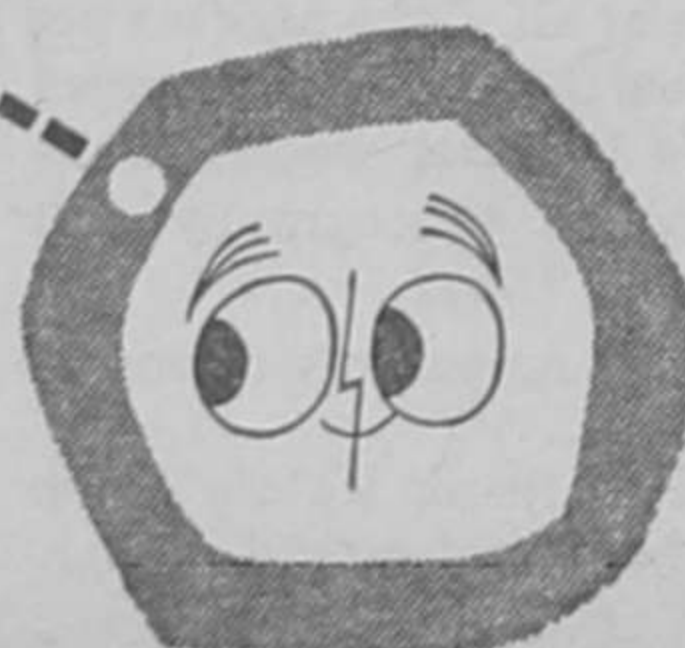
During the past few months, many new stations have been added to the nationwide "Eye Opener" network, and several of the "old" stations have changed the time during which the program can be heard.

Now that almost everyone is back on Standard Time, you can "stay on the beam" by checking the up-to-date list at right for correct time and station in your area and state.

"Eye Opener," now heard over a 36-station network, coast-to-coast, is a fast-moving 30-minute morning show which brings you the best in news, sports, music, weather and shop talk. It's sponsored by the UAW-CIO and features the noted newscaster, Guy Nunn, and his partner, Joe Walsh. They broadcast directly from Solidarity House.

Latest station to join the "Eye Opener" network was Chicago's powerful 50,000-watter, WCFL, which can be heard throughout the Midwest. WCFL, the Voice of Labor, is owned and operated by the Chicago Federation of Labor.

Listeners in Detroit, Windsor, and certain parts of Michigan, Ontario and Ohio can also hear (and see) two other UAW-sponsored programs which feature Guy Nunn: "Labor Views the News," aired week nights at 7:15 p. m. over CKLW, and the TV program "Meet the UAW-CIO," seen Sundays at 6:30 p. m. over CKLW-TV, Channel 9.



UAW programs are heard afternoons on these stations:

| | | | |
|------------------|------|---------|---|
| South Bend, Ind. | WJVA | 1580 kc | 3:30-4:00 p.m. |
| Flint, Mich. | WBBC | 1330 kc | 2:00-2:15 p.m. & 2:45-4:00 p.m. (Shift Break) |
| Pontiac, Mich. | WPON | 1460 kc | 1:15-1:45 p.m. |
| Pittsburgh, Pa. | WPIT | 730 kc | 3:30-4.00 p.m. |

Here's the Complete 'Eye Opener' Network:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------|---------|---------------------------------|
| Detroit | CKLW | 800 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Chicago | WCFL | 1000 kc | 6:45-7:15 a.m. |
| Los Angeles | KFWB | 980 kc | 6:15-6:30 a.m. & 1:15-1:30 a.m. |
| Indianapolis | WFBS | 1260 kc | 6:00-6:15 a.m. & 6:30-6:45 a.m. |
| New York City | WINS | 1010 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Worthington, O. (Columbus) | WRFD | 880 kc | 6:00-6:30 a.m. |
| Kansas City, Mo. | KCMO | 810 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| St. Louis | KXLW | 1320 kc | 6:00-6:30 a.m. |
| Philadelphia | WIBG | 990 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Atlanta | WGST | 920 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Anderson, Ind. | WHBU | 1240 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Evansville, Ind. | WJPS | 1330 kc | 6:00-6:30 a.m. |
| Bedford, Ind. | WBIW | 1340 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Fort Wayne, Ind. | WKJG | 1380 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Kokomo, Ind. | WIOU | 1350 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Muncie, Ind. | WLBC | 1340 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Louisville, Ky. | WGRC | 790 kc | 6:00-6:30 a.m. |
| Alpena, Mich. | WATZ | 1450 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Cadillac, Mich. | WATT | 1240 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Gaylord, Mich. | WATC | 900 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Grand Rapids | WLAV | 1340 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Muskegon, Mich. | WKBZ | 850 kc | 6:00-6:30 a.m. |
| Saginaw, Mich. | WSGW | 790 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Petoskey, Mich. | WMBN | 1340 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Rogers City, Mich. | WHAK | 960 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Traverse City, Mich. | WTCM | 1400 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Niagara Falls, N. Y. | WHLA | 1270 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Cincinnati, O. | WSAI | 1360 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Dallas, Tex. | KGKO | 1480 kc | 6:00-6:30 a.m. |
| Milwaukee, Wis. | WMIL | 1290 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Baltimore, Md. | WCBM | 680 kc | 6:15-6:45 a.m. |
| Hagerstown, Md. | WARK | 1490 kc | 6:35-7:05 a.m. |