

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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IT'S TIME FOR UAW MEMBERS TO TAKE UP THE OFFENSIVE

Dear Mr. Congressman:
I hope that you remember what happened last Nov. 2. I do-- and so I feel that I have a right to ask you to work for quick repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act and for enactment of the rest of the President's Fair Deal program.

I think that Congress should abide by the election mandate and not bow to the pressure of the groups who were repudiated last November.

The working people of America expect you and others in the House and Senate to use your influence to bring

1948 Loot Is Counted

Auto Industry Tops Them All in Year's Profit-Grabbing Spree

In 1948, according to the President's Economic Report, some American manufacturing industries used wage increases "as an excuse for raising prices unnecessarily, thus resulting in wider profit margins." The auto industry is the national first prize-winner in this category.

No other industry so effectively exploited the consuming public in 1948. Holding a halo of respectability above its head with one-hand (called press relations), the industry lightly picked our pockets with the other hand.

In this top-profit year of American history when "achievement of new peak records in production and sales, coupled with higher prices for manufactured goods, led to a new peak record in the dollar volume of profits" (according to the President's Report) — profits after taxes for all corporations rose to 10 per cent on net worth, the auto industry reported profit after taxes of 20 per cent on net worth, 100 per cent ahead of the field.

In the third quarter of 1948 (the last period for which summary data are reported), the auto industry profit rate topped each and every industry in the nation. It even nosed out the profiteers in the lumber and wood products industry who were doing their best to milk house-hungry consumers of every available dollar.

According to Iron Age:

"The auto industry is pardonably proud of its success in attracting and increasing share of the consumer's dollar."

The auto industrialists are not red-faced over gouging operations in 1948. They are not in hiding; in fact, they are beating their chests over their performance.

Listed on this page are the rates of net earnings on investment (profits after taxes) of representative companies in the auto, auto parts, and agricultural implement industries.

The immenseness of these rates of return can be best appreciated by comparing them with rates of return with which we have some acquaintance. Take Hudson's 28.1 per cent return in 1948 for example. If you received this rate of return on a war bond, instead of getting \$100 for \$75 after ten years (the actual rate), you would receive almost \$892.

WEAKEN ECONOMY

What these huge profits do to the economy cannot be exactly measured, but it is clear their chief effect is to weaken the economy by restricting the purchasing power of American consumers. In 1948 "most income gains obtained through increases in incomes and reduction of taxes were lost through high prices," according to the President's Report.

The report tells the story: "Prices in manufacturing industry increased in general more than the increase in costs, including wages, during the year." The auto industry made its contribution toward stifling a full employment and full production economy by cutting purchasing power through repeated price increases.

AGAINST PUBLIC INTEREST

It is this anti-social and uneco-

nomical feature of huge profit rates which make them the concern of every citizen. Excessive executive and corporate incomes in the industries under our jurisdiction are not of themselves important; what is important is the fact that these profits reflect a policy of price-gouging which is directly opposed to the public interest.

The 1948 profit record of the auto industry is a continuation of the post-war program of American business. The first project in this program was to relax controls of scarce materials. This encouraged hoarding of scarce materials, tightening of production bottlenecks; business was then successful in a rapid sequence of political moves. It got repeal of the Excess Profits Tax, but retained the privilege of reclaiming, under the carry-back tax scheme, profit taxes paid during the war.

This rapid-fire dollar-politics put business in a powerful position at the bargaining table. Major industrial leaders refused to negotiate wage demands until they forced their workers out on strike; then they swung the big club. With production crippled, with their government-paid strike funds (tax re-

Ford's Token Price Cuts Leave Profits Untouched

Announcement early this month of trifling reductions in Ford, Lincoln and Mercury cars and trucks by the Ford Motor Company brought the following comment from UAW President Walter P. Reuther:

"The token price reductions announced by the Ford Motor Company Sunday are made possible, as the company says, by savings in material costs and other economies resulting from the improved supply of materials which were in critical shortage during most of last year. The hand-to-mouth operations made necessary in the past by material shortages, steel in particular, raised abnormally the unit cost of production. It is also true that when supply was critical, automobile and part suppliers, in order to maintain schedules, paid black or grey market prices for materials."

We in the UAW-CIO are glad to see this gesture by the company of passing on a part of those savings to purchasers.

"But it should be clearly understood by the public that these token price reductions, as well as additional price reductions that could be made, are possible out of these economies without dipping into the lush profits the automobile industry has been and is still making."

"The present unemployment situation can be met and overcome successfully only by increasing the purchasing power of the American people by distributing a greater share of these exorbitant corporate profits to the people through price reductions, wage increases and other economic benefits to the employees in the industry."

"The time to take aggressive and effective steps to strengthen the purchasing power base of

Push Del. Program

WILMINGTON, Delaware—UAW members are keeping their eyes on the 115th General Assembly here. High on the list of bills which concern labor is the state anti-labor law, which labor wants repealed. A \$7.50 weekly increase in unemployment compensation and improved pensions are also on the CIO political agenda.

our economy is when unemployment is on the increase. Unemployment is the result of the inability of American wage earners to buy back the products of their labor. Maladjustments in the relationship between wages, prices and profits can be brought into balance only through further price reductions and substantial wage increases and other economic benefits to workers."

1948 PROFITS AFTER TAXES

COMPANY	In Millions of Dollars	Per Cent of Net Worth
Auto		
Chrysler	89.2	27.4
General Motors	478.3	29.5
Hudson	13.2	28.1
Nash-Kelvinator	20.1	31.1
Packard	15.1	24.0
Studebaker	19.1	39.8
Willys-Overland	6.5	14.8
Auto Parts		
Borg-Warner	21.0*	26.3**
Eaton Manufacturing	11.0	30.1
Electric Auto-Lite	12.2	22.0
Timkin-Detroit Axle	7.7*	21.6**
Timkin-Roller Bearing	11.2*	23.4**
Body		
Briggs Manufacturing	7.4*	24.0**
Budd and Co.	7.8*	22.7**
Murray Corporation	3.3	12.5
Agricultural Implement		
J. I. Case	10.4	20.7
Caterpillar	13.7	20.0
Deere & Co.	27.7	16.8
Massey-Harris	9.0	36.5
Minneapolis-Moline	6.4	26.3

* Profits for nine months.

** Annual rate based on nine months' profits figure.

funds) to cover their losses, the big corporations bludgeoned the government into submission to their next demand—the end of price controls.

Business agreed to end the paralysis of the economy (which it had intentionally brought about) only in exchange for the scuttling of price controls. Government paid the ransom: within the first six months of 1946, Big Business was again "free" from government price restrictions.

That's when prices really began to skyrocket. The immediate effects of this reborn "free enterprise" was a decline in the living standard of the majority of American families. This was clear to everyone in 1947.

MERCILESS GOUGE

But there were still more profits to be had through price increases — more people still had wartime savings — people who had no cash could get credit—so American business jacked up its prices again and again throughout 1948. Higher profits, which belie the corporations' claim that price increases were needed to offset wage increases, were the result of this unrelenting policy.

As statistics on the year come rolling in, other results are exposed. It is rapidly becoming clear that consumer purchasing power, cut by high prices, is inadequate to sustain production and employment in a number of industries. This means growing ranks of unemployed. It means a smaller economic pie and a smaller share for American workers.

The proportion of the total national product bought by consumers in 1948 was down to 69.7 per cent as compared with 74.7 per cent in 1939. From a public point of view, that's going backward, not forward. When management says "Our profits are good for you," the history of 1948, the top-profit year in history, will prove they lie.

ATTENTION: All Sportsmen and Fishermen!

The line of sporting goods and fishing equipment manufactured by

THE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

of Kalamazoo, Michigan, is now being put out by

SCABS, FINKS AND STRIKEBREAKERS

The regular workers are out on strike. They are members of Local 3619, United Steelworkers of America, CIO. This company has taken every means possible to break the strike. Its importation of strikebreakers provoked a disturbance at the plant, and, as usual, it is the union and the workers who are being prosecuted instead of the company.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE UAW-CIO ARE URGED TO SHUN THIS SCAB-MADE EQUIPMENT. LOCAL UNIONS ARE URGED TO MAKE IT THEIR BUSINESS TO CALL ON MERCHANTS CARRYING THE SHAKESPEARE LINE AND ACQUAINT THEM WITH THE FACTS AND YOUR FEELINGS IN THE MATTER.

Don't Buy Scab!

California Auto Plants 100% UAW Following Nash Election

Every auto plant in California is now under the UAW banner.

This was Regional Director C. V. O'Halloran's announcement March 25 following the NLRB election victory at the Los Angeles Nash-Kelvinator plant, an assembly plant for the new Nash automobiles.

Of 340 eligible voters, 301 voted for the UAW-CIO, 9 voted for the International Association of Machinists, and 21 for no union. Region 6 Representatives Gayle Collins and Scelektor Gage were in charge of organizing the new plant.

404 CHARTERED

New UAW members at the Chrysler parts plant in Newark, Del., were granted a charter as Local 404, UAW, after a recent membership drive. Out of 170 employees, 167 were paid-up members following a 45-day drive led by plant committeemen Roscoe Campbell, Ray McCreary, Joe Windle and other active unionists. A nearly 100 per cent UAW victory is anticipated in forthcoming NLRB elections.

An Editorial . . .

IT'S TIME TO SLUG BACK!

Reactionary forces in America, reviving from the coma induced by the November 2 election results, have launched an all-out campaign against the welfare and living standards of the American people.

It is a two-pronged attack, aimed at 1949 collective bargaining demands on the one hand, and at the Fair Deal legislative program on the other.

It is a scare campaign. The campaign strategists pick out the developing danger signals in the national economy, exaggerate them and attempt to paint a gloomy picture that shows the whole nation marching down the road to depression and attendant mass unemployment. They point to the approximately three and a half million unemployed, to slightly declining prices, to the cutbacks in production in some of the soft goods industries—shoes, textiles, clothing, light appliances.

MUST LABOR BACK DOWN?

And the conclusions they draw from these developments are that labor unions should trim down or withdraw their economic demands and that Congress must forego the much-needed social legislation encompassed by the Fair Deal program. Because, they say, these collective bargaining demands and this proposed social legislation are discouraging and depressing to the Captains of Free Enterprise. We are told, of course, on other occasions that these same Captains of Industry are bold, adventurous pioneers, whose sole concern is the welfare of the nation and who have never a thought for profits except as they serve to sustain and provide for unfortunate widows and orphans. Now they tell us that they can't do business very well if they are discouraged and depressed by union demands to improve living standards and acts of Congress that provide human security and a stable economy.

Some of these free enterprisers have even appeared before the President's Council of Economic Advisers and have said, in effect.

"The psychology of the workers will change for the better if there is a long line at every hiring gate, and our ability to get greater production out of them will improve if there is mass unemployment outside the factory gates."

That is the attitude of the men who profess to be the guiding geniuses of our vast economic machine. There can be little question that there is a deliberate campaign afoot in America to create a partial recession so that the masters of industry and finance can get the political and economic advantages which they think will flow from such a recession.

INIQUITOUS WEDDING

In Washington, the handmaidens of economic royalty who sit in Congress have stripped off all pretense of responsibility to the people who elected them and have shut out of their minds the disturbing memory of November 2, 1948. The Dixiecrats and reactionary Republicans are no longer living in sin; their formal, though unsavory marriage was consummated during the recent filibuster. Mr. and Mrs. DixieGOP are now holding open house on Capitol Hill. In return for GOP assistance in wrecking the civil rights program, the other spouse of this new union is doing its (it is impossible to distinguish the sex of the parties to this marriage) best to help torpedo the rest of the Fair Deal program. They tried their best to emasculate the new rent bill. They are now training their guns on efforts being made to repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, enactment of a broader social security program, a higher minimum wage, a national health bill, federal aid to education and the other decent and constructive legislation called for by President Truman and the vast majority of the American people.

TAKE THE OFFENSIVE

The only answer we of the UAW-CIO can find for ourselves, other members of organized labor and liberal thinking Americans outside the union movement is to take the offensive.

All the reasons for which we drafted our demands in the first place and all the reasons which made President Truman's legislative program necessary remain unchanged.

As a matter of fact, all of the negative economic facts in our economy merely sharpen and point out more clearly the necessity and the compelling need for the things we are fighting for.

As President Reuther told the International Executive Board at its March meeting:

"Unemployment has increased because we haven't got enough purchasing power in the hands of the people. If we permit the fact that unemployment is growing to be used to divert us away from our drive for wage increases and other economic gains, then we will intensify the forces that make for unemployment in the first place."

DRIFT TO DEPRESSION

And if we permit the DixieGOP coalition in Congress to weaken our fight for improved social legislation, we will be permitting the nation to drift into the chaos and tragedy of another depression.

The UAW-CIO calls upon its entire membership to mobilize our maximum strength to back up our 1949 economic demands. We call upon them and their families and neighbors to make known to their senators and congressmen their support of the Fair Deal program and their determination to use their votes to see that people who will support that program are elected to office and kept in office.

NO TIME FOR TIMIDITY

This is not a time for men of little faith and less courage. It is not a time to be frightened by the scare campaigns and threats of big business. It is a time for courageous, constructive, aggressive action.

The officers and Board members of the International Union are prepared to lead that kind of fight. They ask for, and are confident of receiving, your vigorous support.

CIO Slows Monopoly's Bid To Return to Price Fixing

WASHINGTON—Federal Trade Commission—a government agency created to get after monopolies—is under raps in Congress these days. It made the mistake of cracking down on monopoly's favorite price-fixing practice—the basing-point system. A year ago it won a sweeping victory over the Cement trust in the Supreme Court.

"You can't do that to us," said cement, steel and other industries which have used basing points for years as a means of choking competition and holding prices up. Both consumers and small manufacturers had been pinched for years. The trusts came roaring in to the 80th Congress and got Senator Capehart to hold hearings.

Their scheme was to adjust the anti-trust law to the practices of monopoly. It's been done before. The fire insurance companies took a rap under the anti-trust law, so Congress bailed them out with protective legislation. The railroad rate bureaus lost a monopoly case, so Congress exempted them from the anti-trust law. Steel, cement and others now want more of the same treatment.

For lack of time only, Capehart couldn't jam his bill through the 80th Congress. But he set the stage for the 81st. Now, under

Democratic sponsorship, bills are pending which declare a moratorium on Federal trade enforcement actions for two years.

Congressional sponsors of these bills claim they will not give protection to illegal conspiracies, but the industries who are behind the scheme make clear that when the bills pass they will go back to the basing-point practices which the Supreme Court ruled out.

Otis Brubaker, Steelworkers' research director, brought in the facts to prove this and laid them on the Senate committee table, appearing for the CIO in opposition to the moratorium idea. USA-CIO had made an extensive investigation of the whole deal. It found out what the industry boys back home are doing and showed what they are up to in backing these bills.

Until CIO came along these

bills were slated to go through committee in both houses without public hearings. The House committee had already reported its bill favorably, but when CIO protested it agreed to hold up floor action. The Senate committee finally decided it had better hold hearings. Farmers' Union and the Federation of Small Business also appeared against the bill.

CIO's action and Brubaker's testimony slowed up the steam roller, but hasn't brought it to halt. It is possible the bills will be revised so as to block the plan of these industries to go back to their old tricks. But this is unlikely. And beyond the temporary moratorium there is the clear threat that Congress will permanently change the anti-trust laws to legalize the price-fixing schemes of the big industries. Deadline for action on this second part of the deal is now set at July 1, 1950. This will get the dirty work in before November, 1950, when the voters get another crack at the DixieGOP coalition of the 81st Congress.

"This stuff ought to be removed—Yawn!"



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An Editorial . . .

While democracy was taking a beating in Washington during the filibuster fight, a new kind of animal—new in the sense of full identification, but of ancient lineage—made its appearance on Capitol Hill. This freakish but altogether logical animal was a cross between a Northern elephant and a Southern jackass. Although its coat and marking were weird and unusual, it was the product of a completely happy and congenial union. What made this animal so logical was the full community of interest between its father and its mother.

It had long been noted that a sharp whistle and a call would get equally quick and obedient response from both Jack and Jumbo, when the call was uttered by Mr. Big, whose last name might be Business, Interests or Monopoly. This Northern elephant and Southern donkey have had a very close relationship for some time; but it was when the Great Filibuster started that they started brazenly presenting their young in public recital, proudly and mutually proclaiming its parentage.

DECLARED ALLIES

Senator Taft has said publicly that "There is a basic agreement between the Southern Democrats and the Republican Party." If that is true, and apparently it is, then the maintenance of the Poll Tax laws which serve to keep these GOP allies in the Congress is of first priority importance to the GOP itself. The type of Southern politician now infesting the House of Representatives and the Senate, with whom Northern Republicans find so much basic agreement, would either be decimated or virtually eliminated if all barriers to free voting were done away with. What the Claghorns know and fear is the fact that when the day comes when they can no longer drive artificial wedges between white and Negro, workers and farmers, they will no longer be returned to Washington.

Meanwhile, the Northern Republicans, while still giving lip service to their late platform on Civil Rights legislation, are willing and anxious to give every aid possible to the Dixiecrats in order to block the Fair Deal program.

ABOUT VANDENBERG

Senator Vandenberg in recent years has made a substantial contribution in the field of foreign relations; nevertheless, his position on the Barkley ruling places him with those who put parliamentary technicalities before fundamental civil rights. Stripped down to essentials, what Vandenberg said was this: A rule of the Senate is more sacred than the rights of man. Strangely enough, there were no cries of blasphemy when Vandenberg raised the Senate Rules to equal status with the U. S. Constitution. And the Senate is overloaded with professional Defenders of the Constitution.

DOLLAR "DEBATE"

Racial prejudice has been nourished through the years by those who made dollars out of it—not just by the Southern Bourbons, but even more so by the big Northern and Eastern interests who exploit the South and its people, both white and black. They are neither interested in States' Rights nor in the sanctity of unlimited debate in the Senate. Stripped of its sham and fraud, you will find behind the State's Rights slogan the real issues being defended by the Dixiecrats and their Northern Republican allies. These issues are continuation of low wages, sweat shop conditions and human exploitation in the unorganized industries of the South.

Opposition to Civil Rights legislation was a convenient mask for greed—a mask that fit this new animal perfectly.

Filibuster time was certainly unmasking time at the Grand Congressional Ball.



—Drawn by Coak for Nat'l CIO News.

UAW HELPS BOOST OHIO FEPC OVER FIRST HURDLE

UAW members in Ohio are turning their guns on the state Senate. The upper chamber must approve the FEPC bill before that measure becomes law. Labor groups last month joined with state liberals to win FEPC approval from the Ohio General Assembly by a close 70 to 61 vote.

Led by State Representative Michael Damas, co-sponsor of the FEPC bill and member of UAW-CIO Local 12 in Toledo, strong labor support is behind the Ohio campaign for a fair practices law with teeth. Previous bills were killed in committee. Opponents to the present bill tried to whittle away its effectiveness. Labor and liberals with help from friendly legislators have kept the bill from emasculation.

TOLEDO MEET

Over 25 key UAW locals were represented in Toledo recently, where they mapped a state-wide campaign for full approval of FEPC. They heard expert advice from UAW and civic leaders: Mrs. Caroline Davis, director of the UAW Women's Bureau; William H. Oliver, co-director of the UAW Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department; Harry Ross, International representative, UAW Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department; Miss Vivian Musselman, Toledo YMCA, and E. G. Weathers, Toledo supervisor, United States Employment Service.

BUSINESS OPPOSES

Opposition to the bill comes from the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Association of Manufacturers, the Ohio Retail Merchants' Association and the Association of Small Businessmen. Even sympathetic committeemen could not uncover evidence during the hearings which showed unfavorable business reaction in FEPC states. Yet Ohio's Tories plead they must have the right to discriminate. Labor spokesmen reminded the assembly that some labor unions are discriminatory and will be compelled to change their ways under the Ohio Act.

UAW MEMBER LEADS

Against this strong array of business groups, the pro-FEPC fight was waged on the floor of the Ohio assembly by UAW mem-

UAW Officials See Dixiegops Operate

WASHINGTON—During the five-day House Rules Committee filibuster on the House Labor Committee's request for a rule to put the Thomas-Lesinski bill on the House floor for debate and vote, UAW-CIO officials here to see their Representatives and Senators on T-H repeal, Minimum Wage, Housing and other items got a full load of the Southern Democrat-Republican coalition in action.

They saw Representatives Cox (D., Ga.), Howard Smith (D., Va.), Colmer (D., Miss.) teamed up with Representative Allen (R., Ill.) and Clarence Brown (R., O.), Taft's campaign manager, running a "super-hearing" on the merits of the bill itself, over the wishes of Chairman Sabath (D., Ill.), who had a minority of votes on his own committee, as has been the case for the past four years.

They saw Representative Graham Barden (D., N. Car.), ranking Democratic member of the House Labor Committee, follow Chairman Lesinski's defense of his bill with corny but effective undercutting of the bill for which his Committee and his party were asking a rule.

And they saw labor's friends on the House Labor Committee, including Representatives Tom Burke (D., O.), Kelley (D., Pa.), Jacobs (D., Ind.), Bailey (D., W. Va.) present the case for the bill so effectively as to convince anyone but an enemy of labor that it should be reported to the floor and passed. Unfortunately, their best arguments simply supplied the anti-labor majority on the Rules Committee with reasons for giving it the kind of rules that would be most likely to beat the bill and keep Taft-Hartley in whole or in large part.

Comments by the UAW-CIO officials watching the coalition's filibuster were more pointed than polite.

by fine or imprisonment as contempt of court.

UAW International Representatives William Beckham, William Fowler and Reuben Harper are busy in Ohio for the UAW Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department. They are coordinating the FEPC drive among UAW locals, while the department has poured in large quantities of UAW literature to explain FEPC.



Caroline Davis, UAW Women's Dept. Director, addresses Toledo Fair Practices Conference.

ber Damas. He reminded fellow Democrats "it is no longer wise or safe to make promises during political campaigns to get votes." In the final assembly vote for FEPC, seven Democrats left the party, while seven Republicans joined the Democratic majority to pass the measure in the lower chamber.

Damas described the FEPC measure as a model of the New York law. It makes discrimination unlawful by employers, employment agencies, labor unions, religious and fraternal organizations. The bill sets up a five-man commission with power to conduct investigations, hold hearings and apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for the enforcement of cease and desist orders. Violations of such court orders would be punishable

Democracy Defeated by Coalition; GOP Finds Dixiecrat Bed Is Lumpy

WASHINGTON—"Get FEPC to the House and Senate floors before July 1!"

This is the goal of civil rights forces as they re-form their lines for a counter-attack after the stunning defeat administered by the Dixiecrat coalition when, by a vote of 46 to 41, it reversed Vice-President Barkley's decision that Senate Rule 22 should limit debate on a motion-to-take-up-a-bill as well as on a bill itself.

A test on FEPC—on democracy on the job—is the only way to get a real test of Republican Floor Leader Wherry's claim that under the new amended Rule 22 it is possible to break a filibuster and vote on civil rights legislation. This is the contention of civil rights supporters who have heard the report of a deal between Southern Democrats and their Republican allies to let an anti-poll tax bill go through in order to give Republicans something to campaign with in 1950.

Enemies of civil rights for all Americans won the second battle of Gettysburg when 23 Republicans deserted the civil rights cause and crossed over to fight shoulder to shoulder with 23 Southern Democrats in defense of the right of unlimited filibuster against the will of the majority.

They followed up that victory by locking it in place with a change of Rule 22 to require a two-thirds majority of the entire Senate membership for cloture (limitation of debate) on measures and NO limitation whatever on debate over future proposed changes in the Senate Rules. With the aid of a majority of the Republicans in the Senate, Southern Democrats opposed to civil rights have decreed that the clock of progress shall stand still at five minutes to 12.

Here is the battle cry of the victors as stated by Senator George (D., Ga.) in opening the debate: "The true liberal in America and in every other land is a man who seeks to build up the power of the minority to resist the majority."

In other words, "down with majority rule; stall it, block it, beat it when it interferes with minority rule."

Senator George and like-minded Southern Democrats and Republican collaborators have won a great "liberal" victory and kept the U. S. Senate and the American people down at the dead end of Filibuster Alley, at the mercy of a tightly organized and desperate minority determined to deny political and economic democracy to Negroes and other minorities.

GOP WORRIES

But no sooner had the Dixiecrat coalition won its victory than Republican Floor Leader Wherry, Senator Knowland (R., Calif.) and other collaborators began to feel butterflies in their innards about the future of the Republican Party. Before the blood was dry on the Senate floor where the battle had been fought, they announced that the fight for civil rights had NOT been lost. They declared it was still possible to pass civil rights legislation at this session. They said that, with the aid of Democratic friends of civil rights, they would prove it before the end of this session.

It is widely reported that there is an understanding that some sort of anti-poll tax bill will be allowed to pass, so that Republicans can point to it as proof that they have delivered on the civil rights promises in the 1948 GOP platform.

This would take the place of action on a complete civil rights program, including FEPC, the one item in that program to which both Southern Democrats and many Republicans are most opposed and on which they can unite.

DOLLAR DICTATION

Reaction's united front against

FEPC is the principal reliance of the business and financial interests who are not only opposed to FEPC but also want to continue the filibuster as an insurance against enactment of other progressive legislation. By defending the filibuster and by assisting Southern reactionaries in blocking FEPC, they maintain a bipartisan coalition to fight and win battle after battle in the never-ending struggle to establish political and economic democracy. So long as this combination holds—and it will NOT hold on all issues—the forces of what Senator Morse (R., Ore.) called "financial fascism" can beat down tax policies based on ability to pay, broader social security coverage, health insurance and, of immediate concern, repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act.

During the post-mortem speeches, Senator Humphrey (D., Minn.), the man who took the civil rights issue to the floor of the 1948 Democratic convention, called for Senators to volunteer to keep the Senate in session next summer to pass civil rights legislation—to test the Wherry contention that it is still possible to pass such legislation.

FEPC IS TEST

To make that a real fight, not an appeasement gesture arranged by the Dixiecrat coalition, civil rights supporters are determined to get the FEPC bill reported out of the Senate and House Labor Committees, passed by the House and ready for floor action in the Senate next July. Both committees have the votes to report the bill out favorably for floor action.

The question is: Will the Senate and House leadership let this happen?

Time is running fast. Under smart generalship and by taking advantage of a Democratic leadership harassed by internal feuds, the reactionary coalition has won again and again since Jan. 3 in delaying actions on Taft-Hartley repeal, on minimum wage and other issues. Housing and other issues on which the coalition may not hold its lines are backed up, demanding priority.

Unless these issues can be got out of the way—and unless the Fair Dealers can win victories on some of them—only a powerful public demand will get FEPC moved into position for action by both Houses at this session of the 81st Congress.

How Senators Voted on Limiting Filibuster

Here's how the Senate voted (46-41) to override Vice-Pres. Barkley's ruling to limit filibusters and pave the way for possible action on civil rights and other Fair Deal legislation. (The vote was taken March 11.)

Twenty-three Republicans joined up with 23 Democrats—most of them from southern states—to override Barkley. Twenty-five Democrats and 16 Republicans—most of them from the northeast—voted to sustain the Vice-President.

Barkley had ruled that cloture petitions to end filibusters could be entertained on any motion before the Senate. By overruling that decision, the Republicans who joined with Dixiecrats destroyed

the chance to end the filibuster, to liberalize Senate debating rules, and to move ahead with the President's program.

Votes marked (R) indicate support of Vice-Pres. Barkley's ruling to limit debate; votes marked (W) indicate opposition to that ruling. NV indicates not voting.

Senators Anderson (D., N. M.), Murray (D., Mont.), Wagner (D., N. Y.) and Tobey (R., N. H.), who did not vote, indicated they would have voted to support the Barkley ruling (R). Senators Gillette (D., Ia.), McClellan (D., Ark.), Martin (R., Pa.) and Williams (R., Del.) did not vote but would have opposed the Barkley ruling (W).

State	Name	Vote	State	Name	Vote	State	Name	Vote	State	Name	Vote
ALA.	Sparkman (D)	W	IOWA	Gillette (D)	NV	NEB.	Wherry (R)	W	R. I.	Green (D)	R
	Hill (D)	W		Hickenlooper (R)	W		Butler (R)	W		McGrath (D)	R
ARIZ.	Hayden (D)	W	KANS.	Schoeppel (R)	W	NEV.	McCarran (D)	W	S. C.	Maybank (D)	W
	McFarland (D)	W		Reed (R)	W		Malone (R)	W		Johnston (D)	W
ARK.	McClellan (D)	NV	KY.	Chapman (D)	W	N. H.	Bridges (R)	W	S. D.	Mundt (R)	W
	Fulbright (D)	W		Withers (D)	R		Tobey (R)	NV		Gurney (R)	W
CAL.	Downey (D)	R	LA.	Ellender (D)	W	N. J.	Hendri' son (R)	R	TENN.	Kefauver (D)	R
	Knowland (R)	R		Long (D)	W		Smith (R)	R		McKellar (D)	W
COLO.	Johnson (D)	R	ME.	Mrs. Smith (R)	R	N. M.	Anderson (D)	NV	TEX.	Johnson (D)	W
	Millikin (R)	W		Brewster (R)	R		Chavez (D)	R		Connally (D)	W
CONN.	McMahon (D)	R	MD.	Tydings (D)	R	N. Y.	Wagner (D)	NV	UTAH	Thomas (D)	R
	Baldwin (R)	R		O'Conor (D)	R		Ives (R)	R		Watkins (R)	W
DEL.	Frear (D)	R	MASS.	Saltonstall (R)	R	N. C.	C. R. Hoey (D)	W	VT.	Alken (R)	R
	Williams (R)	NV		Lodge (R)	R		Young (R)	R		Flanders (R)	R
FLA.	Pepper (D)	R	MICH.	Ferguson (R)	R	N. D.	Langer (R)	W	VA.	Robertson (D)	W
	Holland (D)	W		Vandenberg (R)	W		Young (R)	R		Byrd (D)	W
GA.	Russell (D)	W	MINN.	Humphrey (D)	R	OHIO	Taft (R)	R	WASH.	Magnuson (D)	R
	George (D)	W		Thye (R)	W		Bricker (R)	W		Cain (R)	W
IDA.	Miller (D)	R	MISS.	Eastland (D)	W	OKLA.	R. Kerr (D)	W	W. VA.	Neely (D)	R
	Taylor (D)	R		Stennis (D)	W		Thomas (D)	R		Kilgore (D)	R
ILL.	Douglas (D)	R	MO.	Donnell (R)	W	ORE.	Cordon (R)	W	WIS.	Wiley (R)	R
	Lucas (D)	R		Kem (R)	W		Morse (R)	R		McCarthy (R)	R
IND.	Capehart (R)	W	MONT.	Murray (D)	NV	PA.	Myers (D)	R	WYO.	Hunt (D)	R
	Jenner (R)	W		Ecton (R)	W		Martin (R)	NV		O'Mahoney (D)	R

Graham Appointment Welcomed by Labor

WASHINGTON (LPA)—Appointment of President Frank P. Graham of the University of North Carolina, to the United States Senate last week was hailed by organized labor as a great contribution to the welfare of this country. Graham, one of the nation's outstanding liberals, was named by Governor W. Kerr Scott to fill the Senate seat recently left vacant by the death of Senator J. Melville Broughton (D., N. Car.).

The southern educator was on President Truman's Civil Rights Commission and said he will continue to support the President's program "as specific measures come up in the light of what is most possible and effective at any given time." Truman was very enthusiastic over the appointment, referring to Graham as a great American and a great citizen.

Labor comment was no less enthusiastic. "We commend the appointment of Dr. Frank P. Graham to the United States Senate," said a statement by AFL President William Green. "We regard Dr. Graham's appointment as an important addition to the liberal and

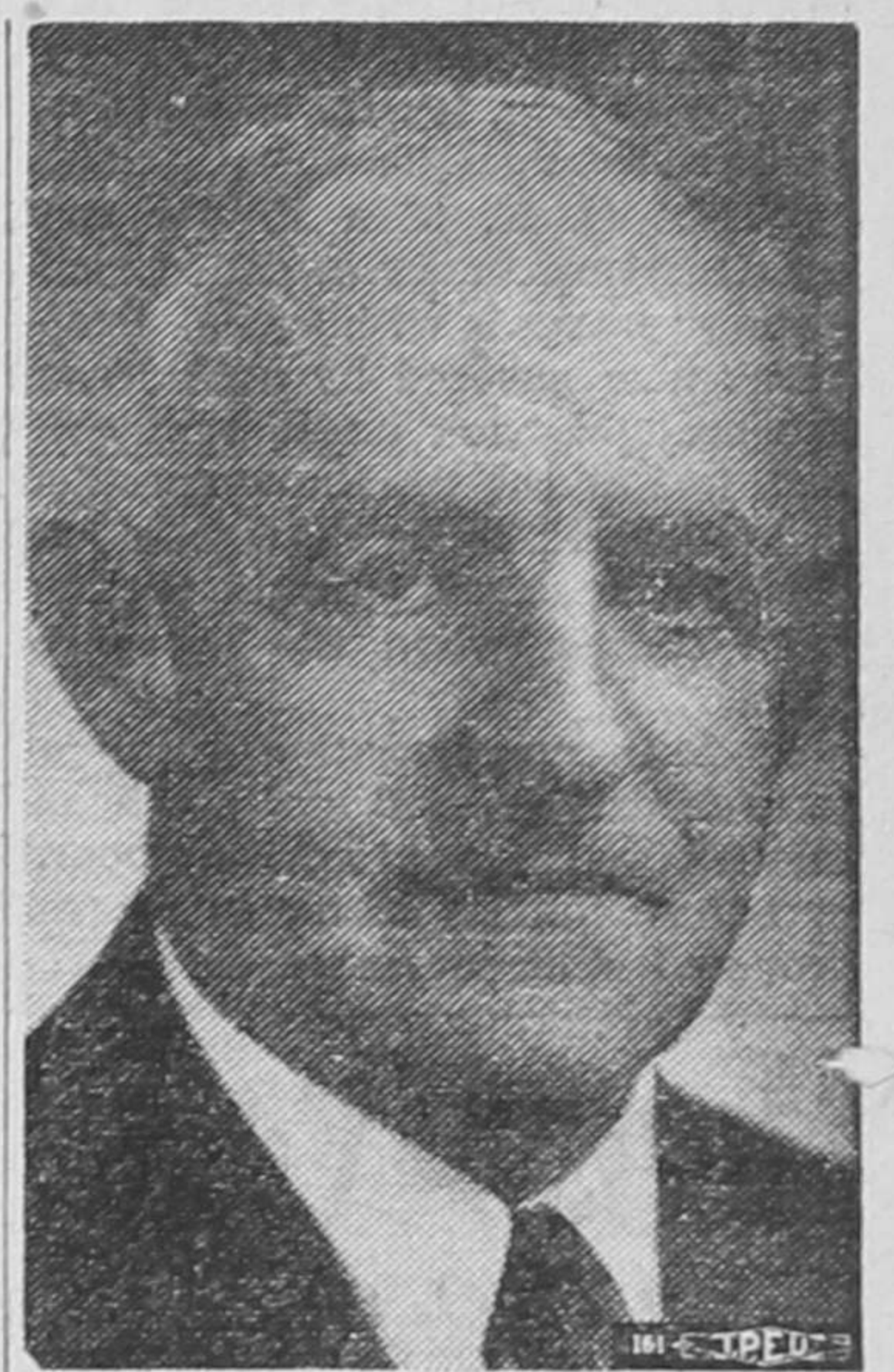
progressive forces representing southern states in the Senate."

In a telegram congratulating Governor Scott for the appointment, CIO President Philip Murray said that "Dr. Graham's wisdom and expert knowledge of governmental, economic and human problems will now be continually at the service of the entire American citizenry." Murray recalled that "during his service on the War Labor Board, Dr. Graham demonstrated his exceptional knowledge of the economic and human factors involved in labor-management relations."

Besides his service on WLB and the Civil Rights Commission, Dr. Graham served on the NRA, the UN committee which arranged the Indonesian truce, and is president of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies.

Early this year, Graham won the first \$1,000 Sidney Hillman award for meritorious public service.

DETROIT—UAW President Walter P. Reuther sent the following message to Dr. Frank P. Graham immediately following announcement of his appointment to the Senate:



Senator Graham

"Here, as in the rest of the country, there is a feeling of deepest gratification that you will take a seat in the United States Senate, thereby enlarging your already wide field of splendid public service. Your ability, integrity and warm feeling for humanity are virtues sorely needed at this particular point in our history. Governor Scott deserves the nation's thanks for his most excellent judgment. All our good wishes go with you to Washington."



Precinct Worker Emil Mazey registers a new voter. Two days after her twenty-first birthday, Miss Lorraine Rigby was escorted to Detroit City Hall by the Secretary-Treasurer to be sworn in by Louis Urban (left), Supervisor of Elections. Miss Rigby is a member of Mazey's office staff.

Think This Over

The British baby's chances of life have almost doubled under Labor rule. Under Labor's national health plan, there were only 34 deaths of infants per 1,000 during 1948, the lowest ever recorded. The death rate has been nearly halved since 1941, when it was 60 per 1,000 births. Ten years ago the chance of a baby being born dead was one in 26; now it is one in 43.

Laborites Win Again

LONDON (LPA)—The Labor Party scored its 33rd by-election victory last month by winning the constituency of Sowerby, in Yorkshire. Elected to a seat in the House of Commons was Douglas Houghton, a radio broadcaster and trade unionist. Labor Party sources reported the win gave good indication that the party would sweep next year's general election.

Taft-Hartleyites Want 1949 Contracts Negotiated with Labor Still Handcuffed

WASHINGTON—Negotiation of 1949 union contracts under the present Taft-Hartley Act now appears to be the goal of Taft-Hartleyites and their lobbyists swarming around both Houses of Congress.

Failing that, they are determined to put at least 75 per cent of Taft-Hartley back into the Thomas-Lesinski bill (S249-HR 2032) by 20 or more amendments to be inserted during brawling floor debates in the House and Senate.

The Administration's April 2 decision to delay bringing the bill to the House floor until Apr. 26 will feed this strategy of delay and amendment—unless, as the Administration hopes, labor and the many employers who are opposed to Taft-Hartley can use the extra time to persuade more Representatives and Senators to support the Thomas-Lesinski bill and to vote against the long string of Taft amendments that will be offered in the House and in the Senate.

Back of the Administration's decisions (1) to switch initial floor action from the Senate to the House and now (2) to delay House action to Apr. 26 is the feeling that the T-H repeal forces have not yet lined up enough votes to pass the Thomas-Lesinski bill without serious Taft-Hartley amendments that would make the final bill an anti-labor weapon.

same strategy when he told UAW-CIO representatives that he intends to work for floor amendments and recommitment. It is rumored that the same strategy will be used in the Senate.

Prior to Nixon's announcement, Representative McConnell (R., Pa.) ranking minority member of the House Labor Committee, presented the Rules Committee with a Minority Report opposing the Thomas-Lesinski bill and favoring the substitute offered by Representative Wood (D., Ga.) re-enacting T-H with toughening amendments. The report denounced "labor racketeers." If the bill goes to the floor with an open rule, the Wood bill will be offered and a floor vote on a motion to substitute it for the Thomas-Lesinski bill will give a good up-to-date list of T-H supporters in the House.



Shown here citing specific instances of Taft-Hartley unfairness before a House Subcommittee on Education and Labor are, from left, Irving J. Levy, UAW General Counsel; T. A. Johnstone, Assistant Director of the UAW GM Dept.; and Donald Montgomery, UAW Washington office chief. At right, is Committee Chairman John Lesinski. Johnstone called the Dorsey Trailer case, Elba, Ala., "an industrial Tobacco Road."

BACK IN OUR LAPS

That put the job of repealing Taft-Hartley right back in the laps of the people back home who voted Nov. 2 for repeal of Taft-Hartley. The Easter vacation will give union members an opportunity to see Senators and Representatives while home and give them solid reasons for voting for the Thomas-Lesinski bill without T-H amendments. This, plus a continuing stream of resolutions, wires, letters and personal contacts, local meetings, etc., is of No. 1 importance for the next three weeks.

Truman Democrats generally are putting their backs into the fight to line up votes for T-H repeal. President Truman himself continues to rank it No. 1. But just how much steam House Speaker Sam Rayburn (D., Tex.) is going to put into the floor fight to defeat T-H amendments and a GOP effort to recommit the bill to committee is still uncertain. Majority Leader McCormack (D., Mass.) is ready to fight, but Rayburn's nod will swing a number of Democratic votes, particularly from the South, against or for any amendment.

AMENDMENT DANGER

Allowing for the loss of the votes of certain Southern Democrats who are hopelessly anti-labor, the forces committed to repeal of Taft-Hartley and re-enactment of the essentials of the Wagner Act must pick up 7 to 12 Republican votes in the Senate and 25 to 35 Republican votes in the House. This can be done. But the hard job is to make sure that the lines will hold against attempts by Republican and Southern Democrat reactionaries to start a floor stampede that will swamp the bill with amendments so bad that the final bill will be re-committed or ripe for a veto by President Truman—leaving Taft-Hartley still in force when Congress quits next summer.

Republican strategy to "load" the Thomas-Lesinski bill with amendments and then move for recommitment—as was done with the first Rankin pension bill—was unveiled on April Fool's Day by Representative Nixon (R., Calif.) a member of the House Labor Committee, when he asked the House Rules Committee to send the bill to the floor with a rule permitting amendment and recommitment. Representative Morton (R., Ky.) revealed the

4,000 Die Casters Vote UAW 6 to 1

CLEVELAND—Over 4,000 workers in Doehler-Jarvis plants voted in an NLRB election early last month to bring the largest die casting company into the UAW fold, it was announced by Ken Eckert, co-director of the UAW Die Casting Department.

The UAW swept the election 6 to 1 in the Doehler-Jarvis plants, which control 37.5 per cent of the die casting industry. The vote was 3,621 for the UAW and 616 for no union. The voting was conducted in the Toledo, O.; Batavia, N. Y.; Chicago and Pottstown, Pa., plants.

No other union was on the ballot. The MESA withdrew from the contest for tool and die makers, when it became apparent that they could not win. The Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers asked workers to vote for no union.

The Doehler-Jarvis workers were formerly in the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, but withdrew last June along with 20 other locals in the casting division of the UMMSW. At that time, 24 of the

37 locals of the UMMSW casting division voted at a conference in Toledo to reconstitute the National Association of Die Casting Workers, CIO. The association had been a separate union in the CIO until 1942, when they merged with the UMMSW.

The Die Casters decided to withdraw after a disastrous strike at four plants of the Precision Die Cast Company. Led by Ken Eckert and Peter Zvara, the Die Casters claimed that the loss of the strike was "due to the interference of the Communist party in the affairs of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers and that as long as the union is dominated by the party line, it would be impossible to function as a legitimate union. The iron control exercised over the membership makes it impossible to clean up the situation from within."

Later, the Die Casters voted to come into the UAW and a Die Cast Department of the UAW was set up to assist them. Vice-President Richard Gosser was assigned to be director of this new department.

Midland Settlement Averts Chrysler, Briggs Shutdown

A last minute settlement at Midland Steel Products Company in which Secretary Emil Mazey and Region 1 Director Mike Lacey had a hand, prevented a big tie-up at Chrysler and supplier plants this month.

Bitter grievances on safety, sanitation, and production questions bolstered the union position. In the settlement management agreed to set up a joint committee with union representatives to iron out these questions. A review of progress will be made within 30 days to see if management has carried out its promises.

The expected strike was averted April 3 when Local 410 voted to support the statement of President Walter Reuther and Secretary Emil Mazey. Their statement, read at a strike meeting by George Merrelli, assistant to Director Mike Lacey of Region 1, threw the International Union support behind the Midland workers, and granted authorization for a strike within three days if mediation failed. An immediate strike was authorized by the International if the company attempted to remove dies

from the plant and take production elsewhere.

The successful negotiations followed a series of unauthorized strikes which had failed to settle the grievances and which had thrown thousands of workers at Chrysler, Briggs and other plants out of work.

The International Union informed officers of Local 410 that if the local union would follow constitutional procedure in taking a strike vote and requesting strike authorization through proper channels, they would receive full support from the International Union in the fight to adjust their legitimate grievances.

After this procedure had been followed, strike authorization granted, and Secretary-Treasurer Mazey had joined the local committee in negotiations, management quickly capitulated and strike action was unnecessary.

UAW Beats IAM, AFL to Win Crosley Motor Car Election

The UAW-CIO, March 30, defeated both the IAM and AFL on the first ballot in an NLRB election at the Crosley Motor Car Company, Marion, Ind., it was announced by UAW Region 3 Director Ray Berndt.

The plant had been under contract with the IAM, and 635 workers were eligible to vote. Of 543 valid ballots cast, the UAW received 292, the IAM 163 and the "UAW"-AFL 86. Two votes were cast for no union.

International Representative E. "Mose" Kucela handled the organization drive, which began only 18 days before the election.

BRITISH UNIONS REJECT CP BIDS

LONDON (LPA)—The Communist party's most important recent bid for power in the British trade union movement was decisively defeated last month.

Ben Gardner, anti-Communist secretary of the important Amalgamated Engineering Union, was re-elected in a referendum ballot by 47,798 votes to 14,739 for the Communist opponent Reg Birch. Two other anti-Communist candidates, whose votes would have gone to Gardner had a run-off been necessary, polled over 10,000 votes between them.

The Communists conducted a particularly unscrupulous campaign against Gardner. Speaking of their own man, Birch, the Stalinists said: "No offers of sherry or cigars will induce him to lose his devotion to the workers." Gardner, who by implication has been corrupted by the employers is, in fact, a teetotaler.

A few weeks earlier the AEU membership retired from office a Communist who has been its national organizer for several years. AEU has a total membership of about 800,000.

The 20,000-member Construction Engineering Union, in elections in its London and Midlands area last month also virtually eliminated the Communist influence that had existed in its executive board.

Meanwhile, in a special meeting, nearly 2,000 members of the Transport & General Workers' Union employed in London's Smithfield market, with fewer than 20 workers dissenting, endorsed the recent strongly worded anti-Communist declarations of the Trades Union Congress and T&GWU.

Competitive Shops Hold 4 Conferences

The UAW-CIO Competitive Shops Department was active on many fronts during the past month, reported Vice-President Richard Gosser, director of the Department, and Joseph Mattson, assistant Department director. A number of important wage-hour conferences were conducted with the help of the UAW Research and Engineering Department represented by Assistant Director Ralph Showalter.

1. Local unions in the radiation, heating, air conditioning and refrigeration industry met in Chicago, March 26, and took steps to work closely with the UAW Research Department to prepare a standard agreement covering the industry now under the UAW.

2. Delegates from unions which manufacture nuts, bolts and screws convened in Chicago, March 5, for the first time in UAW history, where steps were taken to study existing contracts in the various unions. A similar conference will be called later to coordinate contract negotiation.

3. The Spicer Intra-Corporation Council met in Toledo, February 26, to draft a master agreement for all local unions in the Spicer Corporation. Another meeting in Detroit, March 30-31, drew up final conditions for the over-all Spicer agreement to be used in forthcoming negotiations with the company.

4. A National Bearing Conference met in Buffalo, February 19, to review all contracts in the bearing industry. Future meetings intend to prepare a master agreement for uniform collective bargaining throughout the industry.

Dead Heat

Discussing the appointment of Dr. Frank P. Graham to the Senate in his nightly news commentary over Station WDET last month, UAW Radio Commentator Guy Nunn referred to Senator Bricker's "campaign of insinuation" against Graham, and then quoted Senator Wayne Morse in defense: "If I had to name 25 of the greatest living Americans, I would include Dr. Graham—and I would place him exceedingly high on that list."

Added Nunn: "If Labor had to name the worst living Senator, the top choice would be close to a dead heat between two gentlemen from Ohio."

Win Philly Election

Region 9 Director Martin Gerber last month announced that workers at the Paul & Beekman Company, Philadelphia, voted 88 to 4 for UAW-CIO in an NLRB representation election. The new unit will be a part of Amalgamated Local 416.

Ford's Annual 'Inability' Plea Gets Taken Apart

The annual letter of the Ford Motor Company pleading inability of the company to meet the union's demands without wrecking the company and bringing disaster to the workers was received by the UAW-CIO the early part of last month—and has been answered.

It drew a hard-hitting reply from President Walter P. Reuther, to whom it was addressed, who pointed out that the whole Ford empire has been built largely out of the earnings made possible by the "toil and sweat of tens of thousands of Ford workers."

"In your letter," Reuther said, "you propose that the Ford workers continue to finance expansion of the Ford empire by foregoing security for themselves and their families. This they are no longer willing to do."

The text of the letter follows:
March 10, 1949.

Mr. John S. Bugas, Vice-President, Industrial Relations, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Mich.

Dear Mr. Bugas:

Your letter of March 2 was called to my attention upon my return to the city.

Since your letter was used as a press release, it is quite apparent that it was written not in an effort to resolve the problems that confront the Ford workers, but rather as a publicity handout to confuse the real issues in the coming negotiations. Despite the fact that your letter received nationwide press and radio coverage, we are not releasing our reply to the press or the radio. Our decision is based on a sincere belief that the problems of the Ford workers and their families will be solved through down-to-earth collective bargaining and not through a publicity contest. No amount of public lamenting, public relations maneuvering or clever playing with words can exempt the Ford Motor Company from its responsibility to provide Ford workers with security against illness and old age.

Your letter of March 2 is remarkably similar to the letters we have received from you about this time of year in advance of the 1948, 1947 and 1946 negotiations.

You will recall last year, prior to negotiations, you advocated a wage reduction for Ford workers. Your letter of March 2 is no closer to the realities of the present situation than was your proposal for a wage cut last year.

Our attitude towards our 1949 negotiations is simple, understandable and firm. The economic objectives which we are committed to achieve are morally justifiable and economically feasible. They represent effort on the part of workers in our industry to obtain for themselves and their families basic minimum security.

In discussing the question of unemployment and job security, your letter fails to differentiate between basic causes and effects. Workers are being laid off in America not because they are being paid too much, but because they are being paid too little, and, therefore, lack the purchasing power to buy back the products which their labor has created. I would suggest that you review the economic history of America immediately preceding the depression of 1929.

In Chester, Pa., on November 17, 1948, Mr. Henry Ford II publicly recognized the need for higher wages. It is difficult to understand the discrepancy between Mr. Ford's public declaration and the position which you state in your letter of March 2.

The basic task which labor and management in America must face is the achievement of a balance between purchasing power and productive power. Only when the people of America have the needed purchasing power to buy back the things that we know how to make in our factories and raise on our farms will we achieve economic stability, both in terms of full employment and full production. Unfortunately, in the past, management too often has made the mistake of placing the cart before the horse. The demands which our union raise for the 1949 negotiations are a realistic and practical approach to the achievement of security for the workers, and stability within our economy. We are committed to a program that puts the horse before the cart.

You admit yourself, in your letter, that "old-age security is a highly desirable goal." Certainly, high-paid executives in the auto industry should know, because they alone have such security. These industry executives, who are paid scores and hundreds of times more than the workers, have provided themselves with generous pension provisions, while denying even minimum security to their employees. These double standards in our industry, which provide pensions to high-paid executives, but deny such security to the lower-paid factory workers, are economically unsound and morally indefensible. The workers, through their union, are determined to put an end to these discriminatory, unfair and unreasonable double standards.

You state in your letter that a social security program "cannot be financed by wishful thinking." To this we can agree. We are asking that the workers' security program be financed from the same source that is used to finance security for high-paid executives.

You complain that the Ford Motor Company has spent more than it has earned since 1945 on capital improvements, modernization of

plants and equipment, and that consequently "poverty" will be the pleas of the Ford Motor Company in the 1949 negotiations. Judged by normal economic standards, such a plea of poverty is unimpressive. Under the free enterprise system, in theory at least, plant expansion is financed by new capital obtained through investors. The Ford Motor Company, on the other hand, stands today as the world's largest family-owned industrial empire which was financed almost entirely out of earnings made possible by the toil and sweat of tens of thousands of Ford workers. In your letter you propose that the Ford workers continue to finance expansion of the Ford empire by foregoing security for themselves and their families. This they are no longer willing to do.

Although the family control of the Ford Motor Company exempts them under the law with respect to the publication of financial reports, we do not propose to permit the Ford Motor Company to take refuge behind its cloak of secrecy. Published financial reports of its competitors prove that the automobile industry has been enjoying unprecedented profits. While investing huge sums for plant expansion and improvement, your competitors have been earning greater profits year after year. To assume that the Ford Motor Company was not equally profitable would require us to charge its top executive personnel with gross incompetence. The history of the Ford Motor Company leaves no doubt as to its ability to make profits, for it grew from a small beginning to an industrial giant, financing its expansion almost exclusively out of profits.

Other points in your letter are similarly without foundation and we are prepared to answer them in detail when collective bargaining conferences are under way.

The Ford workers and their union are concerned about tomorrow as it affects their job security. The threat of growing unemployment and mounting resistance to the sale of automobiles cannot be met effectively by concentration of greater wealth into the hands of a few, as your letter suggests. It will be met only if labor and management find a way, through collective bargaining, to put into the hands of people the purchasing power required to buy the things that American farms and factories are able to produce. We will make democracy secure in America and in the world only if we demonstrate the practical "know how" to make democracy work in terms of the everyday problems of the great mass of our people. Our demands are geared to this simple, compelling objective.

We are prepared to meet with the Ford Motor Company at your convenience, and it is our hope that the issues in the 1949 negotiations can be resolved through intelligent, constructive, collective bargaining. American industry cannot escape the necessity, nor the responsibility, of meeting the problem of security for workers who are too old to work, but too young to die.

Sincerely yours,
WALTER P. REUTHER,
President.

Tractor Plant Votes UAW-CIO

Ferguson Tractor plant workers voted 4 to 1 to be represented by the UAW-CIO in a Detroit NLRB election March 31, it was announced by Edward Cote, Co-Director of UAW Region 1-A.

The vote was 93 for UAW and 24 for no union. International Representative Phil Maggio, who was in charge of the organizational drive, said the plant would ultimately employ about 500 workers.

Cote also announced that a petition had been filed for an election among the workers at the Whitman & Barnes plant in Region 1-A. He expected the election to be held some time this month. There are 500 workers in the proposed unit.

UAW WINS 33-TO-1 ELECTION VICTORY

With 95 per cent of the eligible 719 workers voting in an NLRB election at the E. L. Wiegand Company in Pittsburgh, Pa., the UAW won by a 33-to-1 margin, it was announced last month by Paul E. Miley, UAW Region 2-A Director.

Miley described the vote as a "tremendous vote of confidence" for Thomas E. Nolan, who spearheaded the UAW drive and was the central figure in a court action instituted by a rival union.

Union's Finances Continue To Improve, Mazey Reports

Emil Mazey, UAW-CIO Secretary-Treasurer, submitted the following report to the union's International Executive Board at its March meeting in Detroit:

During the months of November and December of 1948, and January and February of 1949, our net income exceeded net expenditures by \$361,488.45.

During these four months our donations to local unions for strike relief represented the low of \$53,842.32. In February, the total of \$7,007.07 is the lowest monthly total of strike donations in the past year.

Our February report shows that we are still receiving 1948 assessments. We have collected up until the present time \$847,258.00 on the 1948 assessment, which gives us reason to believe that we will be able to collect in excess of \$900,000.00 for the 1949 assessment.

Our average per capita tax dues-paying members over the past four months was 973,000 as compared with the average for the entire year of 1948 of 893,388 members. It can be safely stated now that we have over a million members in our organization.

On February 28 our liquid assets amounted to \$2,314,456.49. This includes our cash and our government bonds. These funds are allocated in the following manner:

General Fund	\$490,937.81
Strike Fund	984,611.35
1948 Assessment Fund	671,258.00
1949 Assessment Fund	2,895.00
Fair Practices Fund	73,746.43
Education	8,300.78
Recreation	82,707.22

The average per capita tax dues-paying membership of our union for the entire calendar year of 1948 was 893,388 members. This compares with the average of 855,511 for 1947, or a gain of 37,877 per capita tax paying members in 1948.

The following is a summary of our activities for the past four months:

	Net Income	Net expenditures	Excess	Strike Donations
November	\$ 671,503.49	\$ 560,357.33	\$111,146.16	\$17,787.20
December	705,968.50	631,222.27	74,746.23	15,822.54
January	690,254.36	620,249.38	70,004.98	13,226.51
February	679,658.93	574,067.85	105,591.08	7,007.07
	\$2,747,385.28	\$2,385,896.83	\$361,488.45	\$53,842.32

Mazey added this comment, "Although our financial position is greatly improved, it must still be pointed out that our treasury is not adequate for the protection of a membership of a million. Our total liquid assets do not appear nearly so formidable when counted as actually only about \$2.31 per member. We must continue to take every means possible of building up our reserves for the battles ahead."

AUTO-LITE DRIVE GAINS IN FOUR OHIO PLANTS

CINCINNATI — Workers in four large Auto-Lite plants in this area are responding enthusiastically to a powerful UAW-CIO membership drive now underway. The drive is headed by Vice-President Richard Gosser, director of the UAW Auto-Lite Council.

Auto-Lite has a dominant position among auto suppliers in this region. The huge Curtiss-Wright plant at Lockland is operated by Auto-Lite. A merger between the Cochran-Brown company and Auto-Lite is in the offing, and a smaller plant at Sharonville is under Auto-Lite. Workers in these plants are split between the AFL, IAM and assorted independent unions.

"After the round of wage increases last year, many Auto-Lite workers found themselves worse off than they started. While UAW

workers in other Auto-Lite plants in the United States got a flat 13-cent raise, in some Cincinnati plants Auto-Lite workers got a bare 5 to 10-cent increase.

In the Sharonville bumper plant, the AFL and IAM got a 13-cent raise, but the rate meant nothing. Job rates were slashed, changed and watered down. Employees were shifted around without regard for seniority rights, and the stewards and bargaining committees were ignored by the company.

As a result, UAW sentiment is running strong. The AFL contract reopening date is near. Auto-Lite workers are signing UAW membership cards in droves to leave the puny unions which could not defend or protect them. The UAW pension and hospitalization plans are gaining popularity among Auto-Lite workers in this area, who want a strong and far-sighted union.

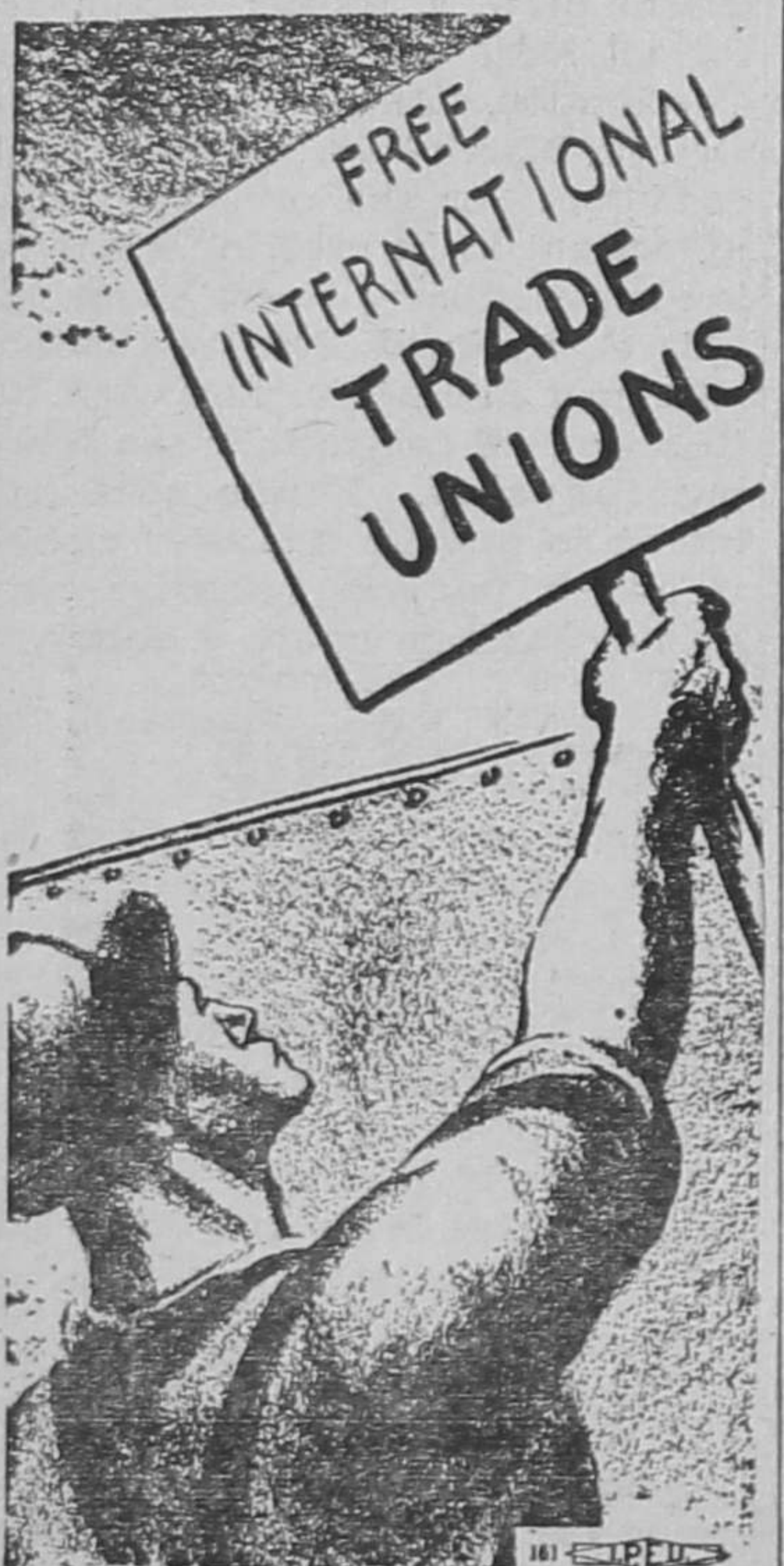
2 MORE GM UNITS WIN CONTRACTS

At the big General Motors plant in Wilmington, Del., the engineers and cafeteria workers voted unanimously to come into UAW Local 435. The engineers got a good local wage and seniority agreement, with Local President Elmer Welker and Committeeman Dick Surbaugh handling the negotiations. Cafeteria workers got a contract with increases totalling over 38 cents an hour. They were represented by Unit Chairman Naomi Altemus.

BUTTER'S TURN TO TALK

WASHINGTON — Southerners who have just finished strengthening the filibuster in the Senate may find it backfiring on them in the fight to pass the oleo bill already passed by the House.

Dairy state Senators may be able to kill the bill by using the filibuster. Southerners, to whom the bill means increased markets and better prices for cottonseed oil, would have to get 64 votes to vote cloture (limitation of debate) or wear out the pro-butter, anti-oleo Senators.



PROMISING NEW FORCE IN WORLD AFFAIRS

Two FE Plants Ready for April Votes

NLRB Sets Dates for Springfield Allis-Chalmers, Chicago McCormick

CHICAGO—National Labor Relations Board officials set a date of April 19 for a representation election in the McCormick plant of International Harvester at a hearing held here Tuesday, March 29. The UAW-CIO had petitioned the NLRB March 15 for the vote.

One day earlier, on March 28, at another hearing held in Springfield, Illinois, the NLRB set a date of April 15 for another representation election at the Allis-Chalmers plant here.

Company officials and the FE representatives consented to the elections in both hearings.

IAM INVOLVED

The International Association of Machinists was involved in the McCormick election, due to its earlier filing of a petition for an election in the tool room there. But an effort of the AFL Stationary Engineers to get on the ballot was ruled out, pending a check with NLRB officials in Washington for a final determination of policy.

In Springfield the Allis-Chalmers workers will vote a selection from the UAW-CIO, the FE and "Neither." There will be four positions on the McCormick ballot, the UAW-CIO, the IAM, the FE and "None."

DRIVE GAINS SPEED

UAW-CIO Vice-President John W. Livingston, who announced the scheduling of the elections to the press from the Chicago headquarters of the UAW-CIO Agricultural Implement Department, said that the UAW-CIO drive to unite all the farm implement industry workers in one union was steadily gaining speed.

He predicted that substantial majorities of the Allis-Chalmers and McCormick workers would vote for the UAW-CIO on April 15 and 19.

"The FE convention proved that the FE leaders do not want to stay in the CIO," he said, "but the FE rank and file will prove in these elections that it is going to stay in the CIO by voting UAW-CIO."

DIRECTORS SEE VICTORY

Both UAW-CIO regional directors in whose regions the elections will be held predicted a heavy UAW-CIO vote.

Pat Greathouse, UAW-CIO Region 4 director, said that the McCormick workers were completely fed up with the FE. "When the FE top leaders suspended seven of the most popular rank and file leaders in the McCormick works—simply because the boys wanted to carry out CIO policy and merge with the UAW-CIO—they proved to their rank and file that FE top leaders do not care a thing about democracy," Greathouse declared.

"These same seven local leaders, together with many more who are still working inside Local 108 of FE, already have the backing of the majority of the workers who elected them," Greathouse stated. "That same majority will vote for the UAW-CIO on April 19—because the McCormick workers want to follow CIO policy and belong to a responsible, American trade union."

"WE ARE IN"

Ray Berndt, UAW-CIO Region 3 director, whose staff members started the Springfield Allis-Chalmers campaign in January, announced that he expected a thumping majority for the UAW-CIO in the Springfield, April 15, vote.

"We have had a strong in-plant committee working there for weeks—and the people in that plant have always been anti-FE anyway," Berndt reported. "It was no trouble to get more than enough cards to petition, and we are going to win by an overwhelming majority—because the Allis-Chalmers workers want to be represented by the UAW-CIO," Berndt concluded.

Out of the CIO?

CONTROLLED FE CONVENTION BOOS MURRAY PEACE PLEA

CEDAR RAPIDS—Delegates to a tightly controlled convention of the Farm Equipment and Metal Workers' Union voted here Friday, March 25, to reject the advice of CIO President Philip Murray urging them to merge with the UAW-CIO—and in effect voted themselves out of the CIO.

The delegates, many of whom were hand-picked by the FE top leaders, hooted and booed the reading of the telegram from Murray by Secretary-Treasurer John Shaffer.

In the telegram, Murray renewed his plea for a peaceful solution of the jurisdictional division of the workers in the farm implement industry. "I am again appealing to the membership of your union through your convention to approve the action of the Congress of Industrial Organizations in this matter," the telegram said.

CALCULATED TURMOIL

The telegram went on to say that "if unfavorable action is taken by the convention, calculated to continue and further intensify the turmoil in your organization, the CIO Executive Board at its next meeting will be required to take proper action—which of course will be in conformity with the provisions of our CIO constitution—to establish harmony by carrying out the provisions of the resolution of the Executive Board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations."

STRONG WARNING

Observers pointed out that this was the strongest warning Murray had issued to date to the leaders of the FE union. Some newspapermen covering the convention interpreted the telegram as a threat to lift the charter of the FE if it did not comply with the decision of the CIO Executive Board.

The CIO Executive Board could at its next meeting vote to recommend to the next CIO convention that the charter of the FE be revoked, since only the CIO convention has the power to withdraw a

charter from a CIO affiliate. But, by voting such a recommendation at an early date, the board could in effect announce in advance the impending revocation of the FE charter by the forthcoming convention of the CIO.

WORKERS WARNED

Workers voting in National Labor Relations Board elections to choose between the FE and the UAW-CIO would then stand warned by the CIO Executive Board that the FE was certain to lose its CIO charter next fall. The workers would then know that they could only stay in the

Quit FE

CHICAGO, Ill.—Five members of FE, Local 108 Executive Board announced their resignations in telegrams sent to Grant W. Oakes, International President of the FE Union, and Matthew Halas, President of FE Local 108, which represents the employes of the McCormick Works of the International Harvester Company in Chicago, Ill.

The five officers were Casey Czochara, Vice-President; Louis Vogritz, Financial Secretary; Hilmon Simpson, Treasurer; Ralph Mitchell, Publicity and Education Director, and Harry Peterson, Trustee, all of whom stated that the purpose of their resignation was to enable them to "remain loyal to CIO."

CIO by voting for the UAW-CIO.

Petition Filed for Votes at John Deere, Allis-Chalmers

CHICAGO—Two more petitions for NLRB elections in farm implement plants were filed last month, it was announced here by the Agricultural Implement Department of the UAW-CIO.

Paul Miley, director of UAW-CIO Region 2-A, filed the first petition in Cleveland, Ohio, Monday, March 28, for an election among the 1,800 workers in the Allis-Chalmers plant there.

They are now represented by UE Local 613, but the whole local is solid for the UAW-CIO. A strong majority has already signed UAW-CIO cards. The contract expires April 15.

The second petition was filed

here in Chicago on behalf of the John Deere plow workers in Moline, Ill. FE Local 150 now holds the contract there covering about 1,200 workers. The contract expires May 24.

Carl Moore, UAW-CIO representative in charge of the drive in the Quad-City area, said that workers in the John Deere plow plant would vote heavily for the UAW-CIO when an election is ordered.

Democracy--FE Style

Grant Oakes told the Farm Equipment Workers convention he was going to "fight to maintain democracy in the CIO," but he didn't say anything about democracy in his own union. Three times last month Oakes and the FE Executive Board over-ruled the democratic action of local unions in complete defiance of the FE constitution.

(1) In Moline all but one of the entire executive board of FE Local 150 were suspended by John Watkins, FE regional director.

(2) Raymond Swant, Vice-President of FE Local 115, got a taste of the same thing. He was an elected delegate to the convention. A popular guy in his local, he was strongly in favor of CIO policy to merge with the UAW-CIO. The FE brass wouldn't permit that, so they suspended Swant outright and handpicked a delegate from the local instead.

(3) In Local 108 of the FE, the high and mighty FE board stepped into the local's activities and began to shift things around to suit themselves. Some local officers were suspended and others forgiven, but the FE constitution was blatantly mangled.



This scene took place at the NLRB hearing in Chicago March 29—out of which came agreement for an election in the Harvester McCormick plant on April 19. Now represented by FE Local 108, the plant employs 6,000 workers, and is the largest unit of FE.

Left to right are: Matt Halas, FE Local 108 President; Charles Lawson, FE Chicago District President; Tony Conole, Assistant to UAW-CIO Vice-President Livingston; Harold Craneheld, UAW-CIO Attorney; Pat Greathouse,

UAW-CIO Region 4 Director; UAW-CIO Vice-President Livingston; Tony Spila, suspended Local 108 grievance committee chairman; Victor R. Weber, suspended legislative director of Local 108; Robert Edwards, rank and file Local 108 leader; and Walter Knych, suspended Local 108 grievance committeeman.

All the suspended Local 108 officials, plus Edwards, are actively supporting a merger of FE with UAW-CIO.

Reuther Answers Publisher's Old, Old Cry of 'Socialism'

Pres. Walter P. Reuther replied in detail to an attack on President Truman's proposal to increase the nation's steel producing capacity by the McGraw-Hill Publishing Company, publisher of **Business Week** and other publications that defend the greed and shortcomings of Big Business. The McGraw-Hill attack was published in the form of a full-page advertisement in daily newspapers throughout the country. Reuther's reply was sent to all the papers that published the ad.

His reply was as follows:

The March 21 full-page McGraw-Hill advertisement in yours and other daily papers declares war on the President's proposal to encourage increased steel capacity. "Socialism" Mr. McGraw calls it, saying that the recent election "gave no mandate for Socialism."

The ad is described as "74th of a series." Mr. McGraw is too modest. His cry of "Socialism" belongs to a longer series than that. For more than a hundred years every new proposal to safeguard or advance the welfare of people has had the label "Socialism" pinned on it by those who speak for wealth and power.

In the present case, however, there is so little that is novel about the President's proposal that we must look further for explanation of the pain it has caused in the bosom of Big Business.

NO NEW APPROACH

The idea that government lend money to assist private industry to expand productive capacity is literally steeped in American tradition. Throughout our history government loans and subsidies have aided the expansion of many great industries. In our own day the RFC has made direct loans to business totaling several billion dollars, not counting defense loans and loans to public agencies. Herbert Hoover in 1932 launched the RFC on its course of "Socialism" with huge rescue loans to banks, insurance companies and railroads.

Nor is it a novel proposal that the government build additional steel capacity if no private enterprise can be found to do it. Industry generally, and the steel industry in particular, refused to provide the new plants required for winning the war. The government had to convince industry leaders that more plants were needed, had to make loans and tax concessions to get industry to build plants, and still had to build the greater part of them itself. President Truman knows this well, for it was Senator Truman who exposed their plans to prevent plant expansion in 1940 when the war emergency was upon us. Since the war, industry has been glad to take these plants off the government's hands at a fraction of their

cost—which, I suppose, is not "Socialism" but "free" enterprise.

The President knows that industrial capacity must keep pace with the nation's needs for full employment of a steadily growing labor force, so we may enjoy the increasing standard of living made possible by an expanded and fully mobilized economy. Many millions of Americans, by far the majority, agree with the President that full production and full employment, year after year, are as vital to winning the peace as they were to winning the war. And they will share his concern about the future when they learn that the steel industry is not keeping pace with our peacetime needs. In the past ten years, manufacturing industry as a whole expanded capacity 56 per cent, but steel only 15 per cent. For the next five years, manufacturers plan to expand capacity 13 per cent, but steel only three per cent. Mr. McGraw might have put these facts in his ad, since they are taken from a survey which his company has just completed.

REAL REASONS

What, then, are the real reasons for the big business reaction to the President's proposal?

Is it because the monopolies desire to keep supplies scarce and prices and profits high? Is it because they fear the small competitors who might come into these industries if they could get government loans to help them build plants?

Or is their protest part of a campaign to persuade Congress to take taxes off the corporations and put them on the people? There is good reason to suspect that the cry of "Socialism" is a tear-gas barrage laid down to mask a drive to cut corporation taxes and to fix up the law so they can charge off against taxes in five years any new plants they build.

SEEK TAX SHIFT

Big Business wants to continue living in the manner to which it has been accustomed. Consumers have been made to pay prices which not only cover production costs plus a profit, but also provide large capital funds for expansion. Now, with lower profits in sight, the champions of large enterprises want to switch from the consumer to the small taxpayer as their source of "costless capital." What tax concessions they win the rest of us will have to pay. Sales taxes are the most likely means of socking it to us.

These tax-dodging spokesmen of industry cry "Socialism" with poor grace against the President's proposal that the government, like a good banker, offer honest loans to those who want to expand. As compared with tax subsidies, the President's proposal is a shining model of free enterprise. It might give a break to businessmen who have the courage and the imagination to in-

vade monopoly-controlled industries which now hide behind their no-trespassing signs: "Private Enterprise. Keep Out."

STILL LOOKING FOR DEPRESSION

Congress has an immediate responsibility to consider the President's proposal and to examine the Big-Business objections to it. It would check the report that in 1948 manufacturers did not find investment uses for all the profits they retained after taxes. It should ascertain whether plans for expansion are based on the expectation of full employment year after year or are based on the belief that economic depression will soon again throw millions of people out of work.

The President's proposal rejects the idea that depressions are inevitable. He along with the majority of the American people believes that depressions are man-made and that we have the democratic right to expect our government to act to avoid depressions with their mass unemployment and their tragic human and economic waste. Maintaining full employment, declared as national policy in the Employment Act of 1946, is vital to the achievement of economic democracy and to the preservation of our political democracy.

PEOPLE MEAN NOTHING

But it is becoming daily more clear that there are people in positions of great economic power who neither believe in nor desire full employment at the increasingly higher standard of living made possible by improved technology. They show no concern over the present increase in the ranks of the unemployed. They draw comfort from the so-called "balance" between supply and demand. It means nothing to them that by throwing people out of work and drying up purchasing power we are getting into balance by bringing demand down to supply instead of building supply up to demand. This is the short road back to booms and busts. Any one who invites us to travel that road is leading us to disaster. The private iron curtain of monopoly that keeps these basic economic facts from the people is as great a threat to our freedom as those forces that threaten us from behind the iron curtain of the Cominform.

The question which the President has raised is much too important to be disposed of by screaming "Socialism." If steel and other basic industries are not expanding capacity by enough to make full employment possible year after year, the people need to know that and the people need to know what the government is going to do about it.

Sincerely yours,

WALTER P. REUTHER,
President, UAW-CIO.

Packard Official Caught Lying, Is Arrested and Held for Trial

Walter Upthegrove, Packard Motor Car Company Unemployment Compensation Director, will be tried for lying and misrepresentation in an illegal excess of zeal to save pennies for his employer at the expense of an ill workman.

Upthegrove was arrested on a warrant issued by the Wayne County (Detroit) Prosecuting Attorney's office following a request by A. L. Zwerdling, UAW Associate Counsel. A plea of innocent was entered for him by the Court when Upthegrove stood mute when arraigned before Recorder's Judge Gerald W. Groat.

The Packard official had been cited earlier for making false statements and misrepresentations before the Michigan Unemployment Compensation Commission in a case involving a request for benefits filed by a Packard worker who lost his job because of epileptic seizures.

The claim was blocked by Upthegrove, who tried to obtain a disqualification by testifying under oath that the claimant had been discharged for misconduct.

When the company records were subpoenaed, it was shown on a payroll clearance form that the claimant had not been discharged, but had been voluntarily separated.

The records further disclosed nu-

merous other aspects of Upthegrove's fraudulent actions.

In asking the Prosecuting Attorney for a warrant, Zwerdling pointed out that the UAW is asking for some semblance of equal treatment under the MUCC Act for an employer representative guilty of fraud.

"It is almost a weekly occurrence for workers to be sentenced under the Act for obtaining a few dollars of benefits fraudulently," Zwerdling said.

"UAW does not defend such workers and has never appeared in any such case, but UAW does demand equal treatment under the law for employers as well as employees.

"This Commission (MUCC) is allowing Upthegrove, convicted as a perjurer by its Referee, to continue to practice before it today despite our protests. Last week the Commission refused the request of Walter Reuther (UAW President) for a meeting to discuss the Upthegrove case with them.

"At the same time it demonstrated its contempt for equal rights for employer and worker by sending this same Referee to Percy Jones Hospital to try a bedridden veteran on the charge of receiving

GM Held Guilty In Trust Case

CHICAGO—General Motors was among 14 corporations and individuals convicted of anti-trust charges by a jury in federal court here. The companies were guilty of "conspiring to monopolize trade and commerce in the purchasing of buses, tires, tubes and petroleum products."

The suit was directed against the National City Lines, which operates buses in several states, but charges of monopoly were also made against GM, Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, Phillips Petroleum Corporation, Standard Oil Company of California, the Mack Manufacturing Co. and others.

less than a week's benefits fraudulently," Zwerdling concluded.

Unemployment compensation representatives from Ford Local 600, West Side Local 174, Chrysler Local 7, Packard Local 190, Tool and Die Local 155, and Mike Novak, president of Wayne County CIO Council, were present at the request for a warrant hearing.

CHRYSLER 'MERIT PLAN' HIT IN NLRB COMPLAINT

The Chrysler Corporation has been charged by the UAW-CIO with engaging in unfair labor practices in a complaint filed with the National Labor Relations Board, it was announced by Norman Matthews, UAW Chrysler Department Director.

The union charged that the corporation's "merit plan" of granting certain individual pay increases and denying others without any notice to or consultation with the UAW as the recognized collective bargaining agency had resulted in a number of specified violations of the National Labor Relations Act.

The complaint also said the corporation had refused to bargain with the union concerning its proposal for "substitution of collective bargaining procedures for unilateral actions of the corporation." Chrysler's refusal to bargain on individual pay increases, it was charged, followed "a general pattern of conduct" as an alleged "plan" of "merit increases."

Matthews said, "The Chrysler merit plan as it has been put into practice represents a direct attempt to bypass the union, to weaken its position and to deny its status as sole collective bargaining agency. The so-called merit plan also gives rise to an unlimited number of cases of favoritism on one hand and discrimination on the other. It has resulted, in many cases, in the denial of the principle of equal pay for equal work."

Foundrymen to Meet in May

A National Foundry Conference for UAW-CIO locals will be held in Cleveland, May 27 to 29, it was announced by Vice-President Richard Gosser, director of the UAW Foundry Council.

All locals composed of foundry workers will be present, but other UAW locals which include foundry workers are urged to send delegates to the Cleveland meeting. A National Accident Prevention bill, suggested by previous foundry workers' meetings of the UAW, will be presented to the Cleveland conference for approval, Vice-President Gosser states. Congressman Thomas Burke, UAW member from Toledo, intends to introduce the bill after the foundry conference has a look at it.

In calling the Cleveland meeting, Vice-President Gosser remarks that "a great deal of competition prevails in the foundry industry, and working conditions tolerated by foundry workers are far below the expected standard enjoyed by most auto workers." The UAW intends to push its efforts to "improve the lot of the foundry workers through their union," he concluded.

Visiting European Unionists Like American Labor; Shocked by U.S. Slums

Top leaders from unions in Sweden, Italy and Germany visited the UAW International offices and local unions last month. They were impressed by the size of American industry and the militance of the American labor movement. But all were astonished at slums, the insecurity of workers, and the absence of health protection in the United States.

Even from the shambles of Berlin, German union and Social Democratic leaders stood before the slums of Detroit amazed by rickety homes in the land of plenty.

The Italians and Swedes showed the same surprise. For most of them, this was their first visit to America. Many notions about the American wonderland were swept away by what they saw with their own eyes.

Unemployment and labor strife are gone in Sweden. The Swedish labor leaders nodded sympathetically at stories about labor's fight with management in this country. Their guide, Jim Tamoor of UAW Local 600, told them about the bloody battle of the River Rouge overpass. "I was in jail 30 times in scraps with company police and spies," Tamoor related.

SWEDEN'S MIDDLE ROAD

Per Osterberg, secretary of the Swedish Federation of Trade Unions, stated that violence disappeared from Sweden forty years ago. Ed Mattson, tall, warm-hearted head of Sweden's Miners' Union, was in the early struggle of American labor himself. An ex-Wobbly in the days of Big Bill Haywood, Mattson worked in the Idaho copper mines.

Today, Mattson explained heartily, Swedish labor has a majority in Parliament through the Social Democratic Party. Strikes are a thing of the past, workers live in spacious housing projects, and large families even get rent rebates from the government if they have more than four children. Workers buy groceries, clothing, and about everything they need from cooperative stores which they own themselves. The labor movement and the Social Democrats operate 34 daily newspapers. Out of Sweden's six million people, every fourth person is a union member.

LEARN ABOUT CIO

The German and Italian leaders were impressed by the UAW's FM radio station. They felt this station could sidestep the lies of the distortions of the commercial radio and press. Many of the Germans and Italians were ignorant of the CIO. Free unions went underground during the Hitler and Mus-

Edwards Blocks Utility Hike

Detroit consumers will not pay increased rates for gas and electricity if Common Council President George Edwards has his way.

Edwards last month blocked rate increases approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission which, he charged, "tumbled over itself to grant the utilities' request." Edwards urged a longer and more careful look at the whole picture, including a strong recommendation that the courts should be given an opportunity to determine the legality of other already granted increases before agreeing to still more.

Edwards pointed out that Detroit Edison had already received two rate increases, and that the utility had been granted more in the commission's order in January than it had asked for. He went on to say that the company had "an excellent record of earnings for its stockholders" and that its costs had been reduced by lower costs for coal and fuel oil.

The Common Council was apparently set to approve the increases without argument when Edwards acted to protect the consumers' interests.

solini dictatorship when the AFL was dominant here. They listened attentively to accounts of the rise of the CIO during the past fifteen years and were eager to hear about CIO political action.

The future of the Ruhr—heart of European industry—was a big worry to the German Social Democrats and labor leaders. They felt only labor trusteeship could prevent a new base for dictatorship in that rich area. If the Ruhr returns to private owners, who prospered under Hitler, aggression against the free world may break out again. The German leaders urged American labor to support German labor to keep the Ruhr under the watchful eyes of German workers.

PRAISE ERP

Giovanni Canini is a top official

VERMONTERS JOIN UAW

UAW Local Union 999 has been chartered following an NLRB election at the Burlington, Vermont, General Electric plant, it was announced last month by Charles Kerrigan, Region 9-A Director.

The vote was 184 for UAW and 124 for no union. International Representative Scotty Hill directed the organization of the plant.



German trade union visitors attend a Detroit PAC rally. Spokesman for the group, center, shakes hands with Michigan Governor G. Mennen Williams, left, and UAW President Walter Reuther.

in the Italian Labor Federation and a leading non-Communist who belongs to the Saragat Socialist Party. He praised the Marshall Plan and reported it was popular among the Italian workers. At the same time, Canini urged great vigilance by free labor in Italy and the United States. "The Marshall Plan must not become an imperialist tool," Canini insisted, "and the American labor movement can help keep the European Recovery Program on the road to democratic reconstruction."

All the European labor delegations expressed their hope that international ties between workers in free nations and free unions would improve. They are excited by the new political awakening in the American labor movement, and are grateful to organized labor in this country for its efforts to keep ERP free from Big Business domination.

UAW Wins GM Election

The UAW-CIO last month continued to expand along with the General Motors Corporation as workers at GM's big Chevrolet Cleveland Parma plant gave the UAW a lopsided vote in an NLRB representation election.

Of 1,053 valid votes, 836 cast their ballots for UAW, 184 for the AFL, and 33 voted for neither.

The eleventh GM plant in Region 2-A, it is expected to be the largest, with a working force of up to 10,000, according to Regional Director Paul E. Miley. The plant will be used in part for the manu-

facture of Chevrolet automatic transmissions.

Major credit for effective organization work was given to an in-plant committee which included James C. Romano, Andrew Seman, John Hamper, Ross Portale, Joe Terrano, Louis Orban, William Chapman, John Pafford, Norman Mueller, Lawrence McClure, John E. Forman, Arthur Korschak, Joe McCarthy, Gerald Snowden, Kiefer Garner, William L. Hurst, Edward W. Rauch, Norman W. Jacoby, Nickolas Pope and William Fisher.

International Representatives Louis Ress, John Troeter, Charles Mobley and Harry Delin assisted in the drive.

WDET-FM Program Schedule for April

101.9 Megacycles On Your FM Dial Channel 270
NEWS AND WEATHER FORECAST 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

8:00	Organ Classics	2:35	Opera Matinee
8:30	Radio Chapel	3:30	Gilbert & Sullivan Concert
9:00	Cosmopolitan Program (In Italian)	4:30	Great Books Discussion
10:00	Cosmopolitan Program (In Polish)	5:00	Lest We Forget These Great Americans
11:00	Cosmopolitan Program (In Jewish)	5:15	You and Your City—George Edwards
11:55	Around the Town	5:30	Choral Concert
12:00	String Classics	5:55	Around the Town
12:30	Your Washington Correspondent	6:00	Keyboard Masters—Sponsored by Smiley Brothers
12:45	Betty Hicks' Sports Fairway	6:30	Labor Views the News—Guy Nunn of UAW
1:00	Music We Love	6:45	Embassy Row
1:35	Community Clinic—Discussions on inequalities of opportunity	7:00	Footlight Parade
2:00	So You Want to Stay Married	7:30	Operation UN
2:15	Yesterdays	8:00	Detroit Public Library Symphony

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

3:00	Cosmopolitan Program (In Polish)	6:30	Labor Views the News—Guy Nunn of UAW
3:30	Cosmopolitan Program (In Italian)	6:45	A Tapestry in Melody
4:00	US Armed Forces Programs	7:00	Music You Want
4:15	A Woman's World—Lela Bingham	7:45	European Information Programs
4:45	Music from the Movies	8:00	Detroit Public Library Symphony
4:55	Around the Town	9:00	Music of the Theater—Mon. through Thurs. U of M Student Forum—Fridays
5:00	Story Time	9:35	Serenade for Strings
5:30	The Vocal Touch		
5:45	Sports Roundup		
6:00	Intermezzo—Dinner Music		

SATURDAY

8:00	Tie Toe Tunes	3:30	Melodic Strings
9:00	Americana	4:00	Piano Patterns
10:00	Rhythm and Reason	4:30	Tropicana
10:15	US Navy Band	4:55	Around the Town
10:30	Young Americans' Town Hall	5:00	Jazz Corner
11:30	Spotlite on Song	5:30	Time Was
11:55	Around the Town	5:45	Sports Roundup
12:00	Luncheon Serenade	6:00	Intermezzo—Dinner Music
12:45	David Felton, Counsellor	6:30	Labor Views the News—Guy Nunn of UAW
1:00	Marine Story	6:45	A Tapestry in Melody
1:15	You and Your Health—Det. Dept. of Health	7:00	All Time Favorites
1:35	Music in the Modern Manner	7:45	Invitation to the Waltz
2:30	Understanding Music	8:00	Detroit Public Library Symphony
3:00	U of M Band Rehearsal	9:00	Ballroom of the Air

(Clip and Save)



Aboard the SS Queen Mary en route to the U. S. for a stay as guests of the UAW is a delegation from the British Amalgamated Engineers' Union. Also on board was their countryman, British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, on his way to the U. S. to sign the North Atlantic Pact. Seated, from left: Hector McNeil, Asst. Foreign Sec'y; Miss Winnie Baddeley; Mr. Bevin; W. H. Stokes. Standing, from left: Percy McNally, Patrick Connor, Daniel Lewis, Isaac Mooney, David Forsyth and Robert Irvine.

EDUCATION DEPT. ISSUES 3 NEW PUBLICATIONS

Three new publications, prepared by the UAW Education Department, are off the press. They include a collection of education ideas, a handbook for the recording secretary and a booklet of facts about labor's struggle with the Harvester monopoly. These publications are now ready for distribution among union officers and members.

(1) *Building the Union* is a thick, readable collection of articles from *Ammunition*. All of the best stories from *Ammunition* during the past two years are here. There is material to help shop stewards find their way around the job. Pages of ideas to improve union meetings and educational programs are included.

All of the new educational techniques used in local meetings are described in this valuable collection. There is a list of films which the UAW supplies local unions. Ideas for getting high school and women's auxiliaries more active in the local are mentioned. The latest information on using radio and movies is explained in detail.

Every union officer and education committeeman can use a copy of this publication, called a "one volume encyclopedia, with ideas and programs for UAW education."

(2) *What Does the Recording Secretary Do?* is a handbook for the local union recording secretary. It will help the secretary keep track of his many duties. There are good hints to get the work done. The jobs assigned to the recording secretary are listed and described. A lot of help is offered to simplify many of these responsibilities.

(3) *Dear Harvester Employee* is a booklet addressed to workers in the Harvester plants. It is filled with real stories about the growth and power of this huge monopoly. The common interest of farmers and workers is traced.

Skilled Trades Developments

Developments affecting tool and die workers, maintenance workers and design engineers have been announced by Vice-President Richard Gosser, director of the UAW Skilled Trades Department.

1. **Tool and die** organization will get a push from two new representatives added to the Competitive Shop Department, where they will be under the direction of the Skilled Trades Department.

2. **Maintenance** workers are still bothered by continuous "seven-day operation." This question was closely studied by the recent meeting of the International Executive Board, which urged local unions to tackle the question in their contract negotiations.

3. **Design Engineers** have been conducting meetings through the Designing Engineers Council to discuss how pension plans can be adapted to new contracts up for negotiation. Some salaried engineers are already covered by pension plans, but a committee is working with the UAW Social Security Department to work out a solution.

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.



UAW WINS FINAL UNIT IN FORD PLANT RUN-OFF

The UAW-CIO was chosen as the bargaining agency at the Ford Motor Co., forge plant, Canton, Ohio, in a run-off election March 16. The vote was 66 for the UAW and 35 for the Die Sinkers Conference. There were 103 eligible to vote.

In the original election, Jan. 6, there were two ballots, one for the production employes and the second for the skilled workmen. In the latter contest there were 48 votes cast for the Die Sinkers Council and 43 for the UAW, with five for no union, and two ballots were challenged. The NLRB officials conducting the election declared it a no-contest because

neither union obtained a majority and ordered the recent election.

However, on the first ballot in the Jan. 6 election, the UAW defeated the AFL, 859 to 68, for the right to represent the production employes.

The drive was led by John Fitzpatrick of Local 600, Detroit. Mr. Fitzpatrick was sent by the Detroit local to assist in bringing the die sinkers of the Canton plant with other die sinkers in the country into the UAW.

International Vice-President Richard Gosser assigned Louis Ress of the Skilled Trades Department and Alfred Granakis of the Die Cast Department to help in the drive.

B-W COUNCIL OKAYS PROGRAM

The UAW Borg-Warner Council approved the contract negotiating policies of the UAW for 1949 at a recent meeting in Chicago. Vice-President Richard Gosser, director of UAW Borg-Warner Department, presented the UAW program for health and pension provisions in new contracts for the council delegates.

Borg-Warner plants were covered by the national wage pattern of the UAW for the first time in 1948. Council delegates in Chicago agreed that all agreements with Borg-Warner will be approved by the Borg-Warner Department of the UAW before they are signed.

Bargaining rights have been won at the Borg-Warner plant in Memphis, Tenn. Organizational work is under way at the Long Manufacturing Company, Windsor, Canada, Spring Division, Bellwood, Ill., and Ingersoll Stove, Ellwood City, Pa.—all of them Borg-Warner subsidiaries.

Lauds Skating Meet

"You are doing a fine thing for the youth of America," wrote Al J. Hamilton, secretary of the Ohio Skating Association, to UAW President Walter Reuther in a recent letter commending the UAW-CIO championship skating meet in Lansing.

The Ohio skating group sent 17 top-ranking skaters to the Lansing meet and wrote President Reuther, "We hope you make this an annual affair."

A copy of the following telegram addressed to Grant Oakes was received by Walter Reuther, March 25, 1949, from Philip Murray, President of the Congress of Industrial Organizations:

March 24, 1949

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

"I sincerely regret that circumstances over which I have no control will preclude the possibility of my participation in your convention. If I were privileged to attend, I would urge your delegates to accept the decision of the Executive Board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations in urgently insisting upon a final consummation of the amalgamation of the Farm Equipment Workers' Union and the United Automobile Workers. This of necessity would require, upon the basis of voluntary agreement, the relinquishment of your charter as a national organization affiliated to the Congress of Industrial Organizations. The record of this controversy dates back to some time during July, 1945. The Executive Board, acting upon this important jurisdictional question on the date of July 14, 1945, adopted a resolution which, by almost unanimous decision, insisted upon the consummation of this amalgamation upon the basis suggested by the CIO Executive Board at its meeting held in the city of Portland, Oregon, on Saturday, November, 27, 1948. In the interest of the workers employed in the farm equipment industry, and in behalf of the membership of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, I am again appealing to the membership of your union through your convention to approve the action of the Congress of Industrial Organizations in this matter.

"Pursuant to the decision of the CIO Executive Board at its meeting on November 27, 1948, I selected a committee composed of Vice-Presidents Rieve and Curran and Executive Board Member Potofsky to conduct hearings in the city of Chicago and make recommendations to the forthcoming meeting of the CIO Executive Board. This committee is prepared to make recommendations to implement the decision of the CIO Executive Board.

"The economic well-being of your membership and the discontinuance of the turmoil in your union is contingent upon your convention's willingness to accept the decision of your parent body.

"In the event you act favorably upon this matter at your convention, the CIO, as an interested party, will exercise its influence with both organizations to see that a proper amalgamation of both organizations is brought about, fully protecting the interests of the workers involved, as is provided for in the CIO Executive Board resolution.

"If unfavorable action is taken by the convention, calculated to continue and further intensify the turmoil in your organization, the CIO Executive Board at its next meeting will be required to take proper action—which, of course, will be in conformity with the provisions of our CIO constitution—to establish harmony by carrying out the provisions of the resolution of the Executive Board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

"I am forwarding a copy of this communication to the office of President Reuther."

PHILIP MURRAY, President,
Congress of Industrial Organizations.



Here is Local 980's basketball team—champions of the Senior Industrial League, Plainfield, N. J. From left, kneeling: Talmadge, Trim Dept.; Donoghue, Prod. Control; Buckiewicz, Plant Engineering; Bauer, General Stores; Gier, Trim Dept. Standing, from left: John McIntyre, asst. coach and Local Union President; Chavis, Paint Dept.; Jordan, General Stores; LaMonda, Chassis Dept.; Fisher, Paint Dept.; Grillo, Paint Dept.; Jack Fitzpatrick, Recreational Director and Coach.