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The United Automobile Worker

UAW-CIO

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

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Chrysler Offer Chisels Pattern; Workers Back Strike Action

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GOP Indicts UAW in Bid to Quiet Union Voice

See Page Two

UAW Summer Schools Pack Lots of Learning

See Pages Six and Seven

GOP Attempts to Muzzle UAW With Indictment On Political Activity; Union Pleads Not Guilty

The Republican Party's efforts to deny you—and the other one and a half million members of the UAW-CIO—the right to free expression of political opinions will reach the trial stage before Judge Frank A. Picard in Detroit's U. S. District Court late this fall.

The indictment is against you—as a part of your Union. Really on trial are those parts of the U. S. Constitution which guarantee everyone freedom of speech and freedom of the press.

Walter P. Reuther, president of the UAW and the CIO, stood before Judge Arthur A. Koscinski late last month and pleaded the million and a half members of the UAW "not guilty on all counts" of the Federal Grand Jury indictment of the Union for alleged violation of the Corrupt Practices part of the infamous Taft-Hartley Act.

OUR BASIC AMERICAN RIGHTS

The four counts of the indictment allege that the UAW paid $5,985 out of its general fund for four television programs during the 1954 federal election campaign on which candidates for federal office appeared. The programs were part of the regular series of Sunday afternoon, half-hour programs presented by the UAW at the mandate of membership.

"The UAW-CIO believes that the case arising out of this indictment is an extremely important one and that the decision of the court will have a significant impact on the course of democracy in this country," President Reuther said at the arraignment.

"The issue involved, as we see it," Reuther said, "is whether working people, banded together in a free labor union, can express their views, through their union, on political issues and other matters of broad public policy through the purchase of radio and television time.

"We believe we have an obligation, as a voluntary association of free men, to provoke discussion and to encourage thoughtful, factual investigation of public issues and political candidates. The use of radio and television time to do this comes within the framework of freedom of the press and freedom of speech guaranteed by the U. S. Constitution."

WILLING TO TEST LAW

Pointing out that the Union doesn't believe the acts charged in the indictment constitute a violation of the statute, President Reuther added, "If it should be determined by the court that these acts are within the scope of the law, we shall contend that the statute, at least to that extent, is an unconstitutional abridgment of the rights of free speech, free press and assembly."

"Any action," he said, "which threatens the right of any group or citizen to express his point of view in the free market place of ideas, threatens the very foundation of our democratic ideals and puts in jeopardy our basic civil liberties."

The UAW maintains that it has and shall continue to respect and comply fully with both the letter and the spirit of the law. No contributions to candidates for federal office have been made out of general union funds.

"UAW-CIO radio and television programs are sponsored in accordance with the decisions of UAW-CIO membership conventions," explained Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer. "Opinions, endorsements and policies expressed on these programs are democratically arrived at by the membership of our Union through the various councils provided for in the UAW Constitution and that of the National CIO."

UAW attorneys have until September 30 to file for a "bill of particulars"—a request for details of the government's (or the GOP's) case against the Union. Sometime after that the trial date will be scheduled by the court.

Who's Got 'Em?

WASHINGTON (PAI)—The U. S. Treasury reports a shortage which doesn't figure to bother workers. It reports $10,000 bills are vanishing from circulation. There were $60 millions of the bills bearing the portrait of Salmon P. Chase, President Lincoln's Secretary of the Treasury, in 1940. Today there are only about $9 million. Seen any strays?

"Do you think they recognized you?"

★ ★ ★

Repudiation at Polls Prompted Attack By Republicans on Workers' Freedoms

John Feikens and Arthur Summerfield, the Republican Party bosses in Michigan, have been building up for this ruthless effort to deny labor constitutionally-guaranteed freedoms ever since the 1954 elections.

They employed the same smear and intimidation tactics employed to suppress dissenting views in totalitarian countries. Feikens knowingly lied when he charged early this summer that the UAW spent over two and one-half million dollars on political action.

The GOP boss lumped the entire budgets of five major departments of the UAW to try to justify the charge. For months Feikens and Summerfield used all government agencies at their disposal, including the FBI, to check campaign contributions by working people.

HIS CANDIDATE LOST

"Feikens' real complaint is that his candidate for United States Senator from Michigan was defeated at the polls by Patrick McNamara," commented Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer of the UAW.

"While we in the UAW-CIO regret that politicians of such little understanding and vision undertake to undermine the basic freedoms of American citizens," the UAW Executive Board stated, "we welcome a test of the right of working people, through the democratic processes of their Union, to express their ideas and opinions through their own radio and television programs and their own publications in the free market place of ideas."

"No amount of fancy footwork," continued the board statement, "can separate Feiken's testimony before a Senate Subcommittee and the Grand Jury investigation which preceded the indictment."

WANT TO END FREEDOM

The Board pin-pointed the problem this way: *"Feikens and Summerfield began maneuvers with Attorney General Brownell to block the right of working people to effectively discuss political issues and candidates and to voice opinions on matters of public policy shortly after the overwhelming and decisive rejection by Michigan voters of the Republican candidates and their program in the 1954 elections.*

"Feikens and Summerfield have launched this un-American assault upon our basic and constitutional rights in their desperation to recapture political power."

At Stake: Democracy

It's against the law for you to contribute more than $5,000 to a federal political campaign. Of course, you can get around that by having your wife and your children and your relatives contribute $5,000 apiece—if you have the money.

Apparently you aren't feeling the pinch.

But the same people who do have those loose thousands, and who do contribute heavily to campaigns, apparently are feeling the pinch—of a better-informed voting public.

The Republican Party receives the vast bulk of the big money. It has the added campaign advantage of having most newspapers support the same candidates big business (and big advertisers) support.

The GOP still lost the last election.

One of the reasons was that unions were able to inform their members—and a great many other people—of the real issues.

When special interests spend a lot of money on a political campaign—and campaigns are becoming fearfully expensive — you can bet your last dollar that the special interests want some special favors. (See the Talbott story on page 10.)

To have government "of, by and for the people," people must have ample opportunity to know both sides of any political debate. The more people know about the issues, the more likely they are to elect law makers responsive to their needs.

But the issue involved in the indictment of the UAW-CIO goes even deeper than good versus bad government. What is really involved is whether we shall have democracy.

The law, under which the UAW-CIO was indicted, prohibits corporations, banks and unions from making contributions and expenditures to federal campaigns. So banks, as such, and unions, as such, do not give money directly to the campaign funds of candidates for federal office.

Bankers, of course, and corporation executives, of course, contribute as individuals . . . up to $5,000. Contrast that with the buck a union member gives PAC.

But banks, as such, and corporations, as such, do give their political views. And they spend money to let the public know their views. So do unions.

Newspapers, most of which are corporations, endorse candidates for federal office and devote space worth millions of dollars to support their man.

If the UAW were guilty of violating the law, then newspapers are guilty of violating the same law.

Of much greater importance, if the GOP succeeded in silencing unions it would be, in effect, denying you the right to voice public political opinions.

You would be denied freedom of speech and freedom of the press as are guaranteed you by the Constitution. If this precedent is established, it is but a step from there to silencing all public argument against the party in power. Then we would no longer have a democracy.

Perhaps the most fearsome part of the indictment is the willingness on the part of people in high places to undermine basic democratic rights as a means of furthering their own political ends.

Judge in Indiana Upholds Union Shop

INDIANAPOLIS—Superior Court Judge Walter Pritchard has upheld the union shop in Indiana.

Judge Pritchard ruled against a non-union employee in GM's Allison Division here who had charged the union shop agreement between the UAW-CIO and GM "threatened his livelihood."

The jurist said non-union employees in Indiana don't have to "join the union," but must "pay initiation fees and dues to the union."

Ike's Team Keeps Showing True Form

SALEM, Oregon (PAI)—Members of President Eisenhower's "own team" continue to embarrass him. Douglas McKay, his Secretary of the Interior, heads one of three auto dealer firms here charged with "union-busting" tactics by striking Lodge 1506, AFL Machinists.

The Union says it has negotiated since May, 1954, when McKay's firm asked the Union to make no wage demands and give up the following benefits in the contract since 1948: Union Shop, seniority, 40-hour week, Saturday overtime, and paid holidays.

Chrysler Offers Less Than Pattern; Strike Votes Underway in All Plants

Chrysler workers were backing up their demands with strike votes as this issue of The United Automobile Worker went to press.

Chrysler Corporation, which had a chance to build a little good will, muffed it as usual. With the pattern clearly established in UAW-CIO contracts with Ford and General Motors, Chrysler Corporation is still trying to shortchange its workers, still trying to take away hard-won gains, some of which have been in the contract since 1939.

Norman Matthews, UAW vice-president and director of the Union's Chrysler Department, summed the situation up at the Chrysler Council meeting in Detroit at midmonth: "Chrysler Corporation didn't learn a thing from the strikes in 1948 and 1950. They're still trying to make us give up things we've fought for and bargained for over a period of years.

> **"The Union negotiators have advised the Company that we will not take a backward step. Chrysler boasts about the 'Forward Look' in its cars. We have advised them to apply the 'forward look' to their relations with their workers."**

The contract is due to expire at midnight, August 31. Chrysler Corporation, which has had more time than either General Motors or Ford in which to work out a satisfactory contract, is still trying to shortchange workers on items like:

SENIORITY: The Corporation is attempting to weaken the existing seniority system by putting layoff and recall on the basis of "employe's present ability" with seniority to prevail only if "present ability" is equal.

HEALTH BENEFITS: Chrysler proposes benefits lower than the pattern with worker contributions higher than the pattern.

GAW COVERAGE: Chrysler refuses to extend Guaranteed Annual Wage protection to 8,000 salaried workers. It insists on technical eligibility provisions which would deprive many other workers of GAW protection.

UNION REPRESENTATION: The Corporation is attempting to dilute the existing system of union representation in order to undermine the effectiveness of the union in protecting workers on the job.

LOWER WAGES FOR SALARIED WORKERS: Chrysler wants to reduce the maximums and lower the minimums in many office worker classifications; would "red circle" workers presently above the new maximums. This would also apply to engineers in the Automotive Body Division.

PENSIONS: Chrysler Corporation wants to deny retired workers in the Automotive Body Division the advances gained under the new pension pattern. These are the workers who helped build the equity Chrysler purchased when it bought Briggs.

SHIFT PREMIUM: The Corporation refuses to meet the established pattern of 10 per cent premium for third shift workers.

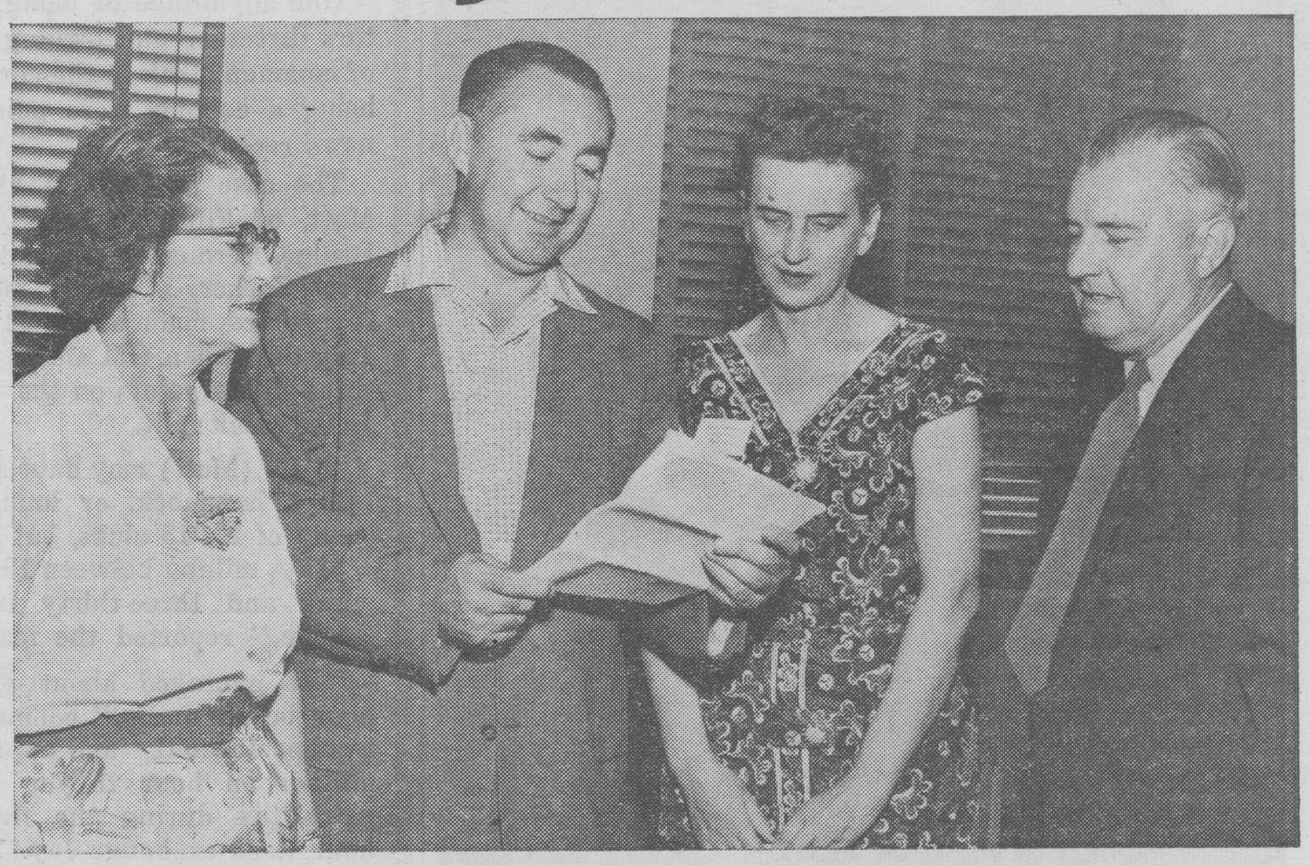
WORKING AGREEMENT: Chrysler seeks other changes in the working agreement; would nibble away at Chrysler workers' hard-won rights and benefits.

UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, director of the Chrysler ABD Department, pointed out that both Ford and General Motors also proposed to weaken the working agreement.

"But when we signed the contracts," he told members of the Chrysler Council, "both wound up improving instead of weakening the contracts. Our demands are reasonable. Chrysler should have granted them willingly. Instead, it's hedging, trying to chisel on the economic provisions; attempting to carve away a portion of Chrysler workers' hard-won security."

The Chrysler Council, accustomed to meeting the Corporation head-on when the Corporation tries to crack down, did the obvious thing. Members unanimously voted to take a strike vote in every Chrysler plant. At press time, early reports indicated Chrysler workers are voting practically unanimously to back up their demands with strike action if necessary.

Chrysler, still boasting of the "Forward Look," once again is back behind the eight ball in its relations with its workers.



THERE'S AGREEMENT HERE that the Chrysler workers' demands are designed to help everybody. Pictured at the Chrysler Council meeting are, l. to r., Lottie Tolmie, recording secretary of Local 490; UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, director of the Union's Chrysler ABD Department; Sophia Wesolowski, delegate from Local 212, and UAW Vice-President Norman Matthews, director of the Union's Chrysler Department.

California Bosses Can't Hide Dispute

SACRAMENTO, Cal. (PAI)—California Supreme Court has upheld a state law declaring that any company seeking to hire strike-breakers must state clearly that it is engaged in labor difficulties.

The law is similar to one recently passed by the Connecticut General Assembly. The Connecticut law declares that any employer advertising for help during a strike or labor dispute must make it plain in his advertisement that he is involved in a labor dispute. If the ad is printed, the statement concerning the dispute must be in black, capital letters about twice the size of ordinary newspaper type.

High Batting Average

WASHINGTON (PAI)—NLRB representation elections during the second quarter of 1955 produced 890 union victories or 69 per cent of the total elections held. In all, 84,581 votes were cast for union representation, representing 68 per cent of those voting.

Offer Lacks Horsepower; AMC Talks to Resume

American Motors is getting a chance to reconsider its "low horsepower offer."

UAW Vice-President Leonard Woodcock pointed out, "the current AMC offer amounts to only 8.6 cents during the first year of the contract," in announcing a recess in negotiations until August 30.

"The key obstacle to a peaceful settlement," Woodcock said, "is the obvious attempt by AMC to postpone meeting its obligations to its workers as long as possible."

The 8.6 cents includes five cents for the Guaranteed Annual Wage. Elsewhere, AMC is short all along the line.

Some examples of AMC's efforts to meet today's obligations tomorrow: It wants to maintain the present level of pensions for two years and then bring the level up to the pattern. (But it wants to chisel, then, by denying the increase to workers already retired); AMC wants to hold off a year in improving the insurance package; AMC wants to grant only a three-cent "postage stamp" improvement factor increase this year . . . and then come up to the pattern in 1956.

Also in dispute are production standard matters in AMC's Grand Rapids and Milwaukee plants.

Negotiations were recessed because most AMC plants are shut down for a two-week vacation period. They will resume late this month. AMC has until midnight, September 1, to decide whether it will stand pat on an offer which amounts to asking AMC workers to subsidize a corporation noted for its high administrative costs.

The difference between what AMC offers and what represents equity and justice for AMC workers is just that—a subsidy.

UAW Wins Bargaining Rights at Two Plants

Nameplate and Monogram Company workers at Spencerville and Wapakoneta, Ohio, in Region 2-B and the Amity Tool Company in Region 1 have picked the UAW-CIO as bargaining representative.

At the Nameplate and Monogram Company 191 voted for the UAW and 119 for an independent union. Thirty challenged ballots held up certification until a favorable NLRB ruling. Bargaining rights were won at Amity by a card check.

UAW PRESIDENT WALTER REUTHER discusses the progress of negotiations at the Chrysler Conference this month in Detroit. Delegates unanimously voted to back up the Union's demands with a strike vote.

UAW NEWSCASTER GUY NUNN (right) receives an Emancipation Day award from Windsor, Canada, attorney Edward Dudley, representing a citizens' committee. The award to Nunn, who heads the UAW-CIO Radio Department and participates in the Union's radio and TV programs, was for his outstanding contributions to Democracy and Brotherhood.

$11½ Million Question

Tale of a Tycoon and a Cobbler

One advantage of being a General Motors director—and owning 800,000 shares of common stock in the corporation—over being a cobbler were pointed up in the news recently.

The case of the GM exec, Charles S. Mott, of Flint, Michigan, and Somerset Bridge, Bermuda, was brought up by **The New Yorker,** a weekly magazine. Mott, it reported, made a neat $11½ million one July day when GM stock jumped 14 and three-eights points on the wings of a projected stock split.

"He (Mott) may have spent the day in a hammock, or lounging around any of his 13 clubs, but he still made $11½ million between 10 in the morning and three-thirty in the afternoon," reported the magazine.

"He averaged about $2.3 million an hour before taxes," commented the **Milwaukee Journal,** "and approximately $1.7 million an hour if you deduct capital gains tax during the five-and-one-half-hour stock exchange day."

That's where Gino Prato, the likeable cobbler from New York's Bronx, comes in. Gino displayed an amazing knowledge of opera appearing on a national television program, the "$64,000 Question," and correctly answered the $32,000 question before choosing to heed the advice of his aged father in Italy to stop short of the $64,000 query.

"The modern tycoon," added the Journal in an editorial, "is apt to pooh-pooh the size of these gains—pointing out that high taxes and tougher laws make it harder today to become a millionaire than it was for tycoons of 50 and more years ago.

"True, laws are tougher. But capital gains are not taxed as ordinary income. The top rate—even for multimillionaires—is 25 per cent. So there's plenty left over to sock away in a private kitty after a capital gains tax. It's hard these days to become really rich on earned income, but it can be managed in many another way."

The cobbler, who earns less than $4,000 a year at his trade, unlike Mott, has to pay tax on his $32,000 windfall at regular income tax rates. He's not allowed to cash in on the capital gains dodge.

Just as you may have suspected. There are advantages to being a tycoon rather than a cobbler. Even if you know your opera.

'Operation Lunch Bucket' Completed; Cafeteria Workers Win New Contract

Anybody interested in picking up some used lunch buckets might contact workers at North American Aviation's plants in Los Angeles, Downey, and Torrance, California.

"Operation Lunch Bucket" has ended.

UAW-CIO negotiators from Local 887 reached agreement with Nationwide Food Service, Inc., on terms of a new one-year contract and the Cafeteria Unit of Local 887 of the UAW has ratified the agreement.

Negotiations continued 12 weeks during which Local 887 developed "Operation Lunch Bucket"—bringing pressure on the catering service by urging the nearly 23,000 UAW members at NAA to bring their lunch to work rather than use cafeteria facilities.

The 107 UAW members in the Cafeteria Unit received an 8½ cents per hour package, including a general wage increase, a Blue Cross insurance program, continuation of their 100 per cent Union shop, an improved cost-of-living clause, and additional fringe benefits.

Additional cooks and lead ladies were agreed upon to furnish more help to the often overworked Cafeteria workers. And the economic gains are retroactive to May 1.

The epithet of "Operation Lunch Bucket" for Local 887 is "Mission Accomplished."

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Deere, Peoria Caterpillar Meet Economic Pattern Set in Auto

The patterns launched by the UAW settlements with Ford and General Motors are now as much a part of the farm implement industry as they are in auto, Leonard Woodcock, vice-president and director of the Agricultural Implement Department, asserted this month.

Two major firms settled early in the month, Caterpillar Tractor and John Deere. Both met the full pattern, including the Guaranteed Annual Wage principles, pension improvements, union shop and improvements in the working agreement.

As the *Auto Worker* went to press, negotiations were continuing between the Union and both International Harvester and Allis-Chalmers.

The Caterpillar settlement, announced by Woodcock, includes, in addition to the GAW provisions, an eight-cent general wage increase with additional wage increases ranging from four to eight cents for 3,400 workers in the highest labor grades.

IMPROVEMENT FACTOR UP

It calls for six-cent improvement factor increases in 1956 and 1957 for workers making up to $2.60 an hour and for seven-cent increases for workers making that amount or more.

The night-shift premium for both the second and third shifts was increased from nine cents to 12 cents.

Improvements in the pension program and health-medical Insurance plan more than meet the automobile industry pattern. The contract also provides for a seventh holiday, the entire day before Christmas.

Woodcock estimated the value of the economic provisions of the contract at 23 cents an hour.

The settlement at John Deere, announced by Pat Greathouse, director of UAW-CIO Region 4 and of the John Deere Department, met the full pattern, including a three per cent improvement factor which will bring annual increases averaging seven cents an hour during the life of the three-year pact, and inequity and skilled trades increases ranging from two cents to eight cents an hour.

One of the most significant changes was abandoning an old-fashioned incentive system. To bring this about, it was necessary to advance base rates from 15 to 25 cents for many workers and to move some of them up one labor grade.

Greathouse placed the cost of this contract gain at five cents an hour and of a newly-negotiated automatic-progression provision at a half-cent an hour. The total worth of the economic package, he said, is approximately 26 cents an hour.

AMC-UAW Plan Praised

WASHINGTON (PAI)—The American Motors Corporation pension plan under contract with the UAW-CIO was one of four union pension funds singled out as examples of efficient operations by the Subcommittee on Welfare and Pension Funds of the Senate Labor Committee, headed by Senator Paul H. Douglas (D., Ill.).

$25 Million Strike Fund In Sight; Dues Cut Back

For most UAW-CIO members, dues will be back at the $2.50 level next month.

By the time all UAW-CIO Locals have finished collecting the $5 temporary monthly dues increase for four months, the $25 million strike fund will be a reality.

Local Unions which started collecting the additional $5 for May will be back at the $2.50 level in September. Locals unable to start the higher dues until a later month will return to the regular dues level after they have collected $7.50 for four months.

A report released by UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey shows that the Union's Strike Fund had a balance of $16,963,226.23 as of July 31, 1955. In a letter to the presidents and financial secretaries of all Local Unions, Mazey explained that the delay in getting the fund to full strength stems from the checkoff practices of many employers.

"Many Local Unions had the $7.50 checked off during the month of May," he said. "The Locals, however, did not receive the checkoff from the company until the month of June and finally forwarded May dues to my office during the month of July."

When convention delegates voted the temporary dues increase, many of them viewed it as an investment. No investment ever paid off quicker or in bigger dividends. In return for a temporary dues increase of less than three cents an hour, UAW members were able to pioneer on a settlement pattern of benefits averaging well over 20 cents an hour.

Because UAW members showed they were willing to back up their demands with cash, they were able to get the pattern establishment without a major strike. If strikes do become necessary, the Union is in the best financial position in its history to help ease the sacrifice of those on the picket line.

The dues increase was temporary. The benefits of the pattern will last more than a lifetime.

Governor Uses Troopers In Perfect Circle Strike

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana—Soundly criticizing the use of Indiana state troopers as strike-breakers in the three-week-old strike against the Perfect Circle Company, the UAW-CIO Region 3 Auto Council formed a committee at its meeting here this month to seek a meeting with Governor George Craig to voice its protests.

The Union action came as a result of the Governor's dispatching 150 state troopers to the strike-bound Perfect Circle plant at Hagerstown in 40 police cruisers, two troop carriers and a police plane, on Friday, August 5. Other troopers were later assigned to duty at or near Perfect Circle plants in Richmond and New Castle.

WON'T EVEN TALK

Raymond H. Berndt, UAW-CIO Region 3 director, declared that so far all efforts to see the Governor had failed. "All requests and inquiries have been answered by Doxie Moore," Berndt stated. "Mr. Moore has said that the Governor is busy with the American Legion, and he suggested that our problem be taken to the State Department of Labor. This agency, obviously has nothing to do with the existing situation, since the Governor alone has the authority to order state police forces to act in strike situations."

Deploring Governor Craig's indicated refusal to consider the pleas of 130,000 auto workers in Region 3, Berndt further declared that a letter was being sent at direction of the Council to "protest the use of troopers in strike-breaking activities."

Since the start of the Perfect Circle strike on July 25, the Craig state administration as well as the various municipal administrations concerned have been guilty of out-and-out political conniving to aid their long-time associate and buddy, Lothair Teetor, head of Perfect Circle and Assistant Secretary of Commerce. Teetor, incidentally, was also a long-time GOP member of the Indiana House of Representatives who actively opposed all forms of workmen's compensation.

LOTS OF CONNIVING

Other evidence of the political conniving in Teetor's behalf was the actions of Mayor Lester Meadows and his police chief in Richmond. Shortly after the Perfect Circle strike started at the Richmond plant, 14 pickets were arrested under an antiquated state ordinance for "malicious trespass." The 13 men were subjected to the indignity of being transported to the local jail in a dump truck. The lone woman got a break. She rode in the police chief's Packard!

Administrations in Hagerstown and New Castle also support the Company's attempts to break the UAW strike in any way possible. However, public sentiment in these communities is swinging more and more toward Union support. These citizens have had ample opportunity to see how Craig and the others are doing their best for their old buddy, Teetor, and acting against the best interests of state and community.

One incident in New Castle showed an interesting sidelight. Henry Country Prosecutor Fred Hall refused to press charges of "malicious trespass" against pickets who were brought in by the local police. He declared the Company was trying to use him as a goat, and threw the charges out. This was only one incident in favor of the strikers as against the many favoring the Perfect Circle Company.

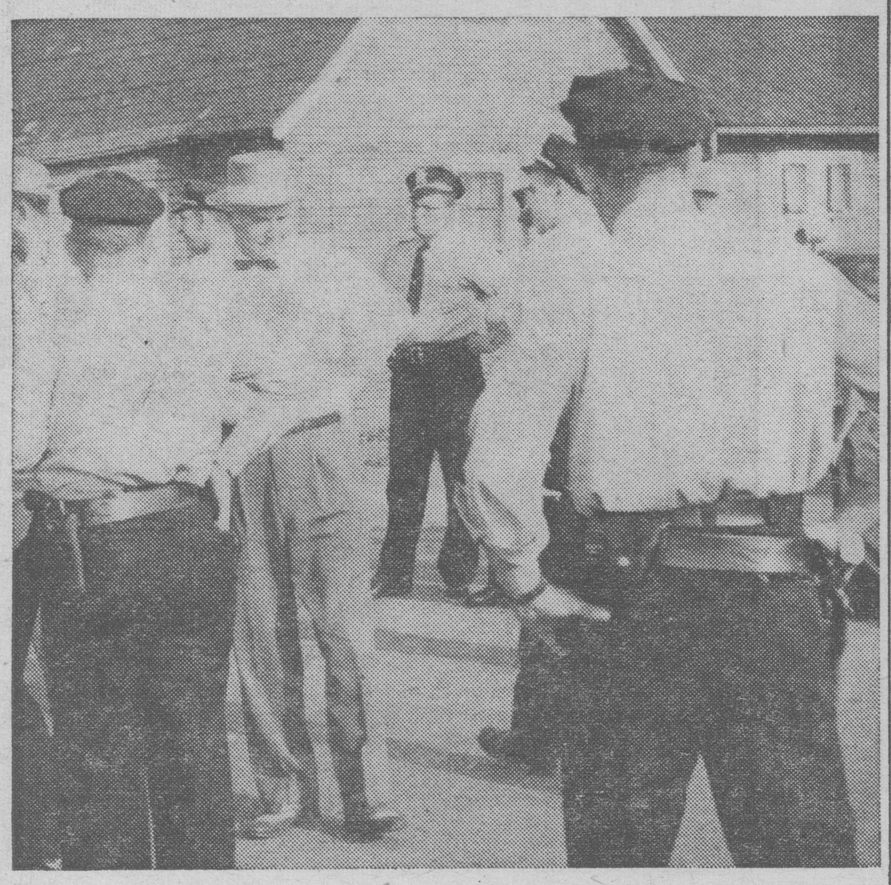
Organized labor in Indiana is thoroughly aroused over the political conniving in behalf of Perfect Circle, and support for the UAW strikers is growing steadily within the ranks of both CIO and AFL.

There's one big trouble with Craig's efforts. State troopers don't make piston rings.

Officers Report On Skilled Trades

About 125 delegates and visitors attended the quarterly International Skilled Trades Council meeting in Kansas City recently to hear reports on skilled trades problems from Richard Gosser and Norm Matthews, UAW vice-presidents; Regional Directors Joe McCusker and George Merrelli, and Assistant Ford Department Director Nelson Samp.

"We are making progress in establishing skilled trades policy throughout our Union," Vice-President Gosser, Director of the UAW Skilled Trades Department, told the delegates from 21 regional skilled trades councils.



NEW CASTLE MAYOR Paul McCormack directs local police in their attempts to break up the UAW-CIO strike against Perfect Circle. Just another sample of the police cooperation provided Indiana Governor Craig's close friend, Assistant Secretary of Commerce Lothair Teetor, head of Perfect Circle.

Dixon-Yates Deal With Government Was Hatched Right in Ike's Office

WASHINGTON—They welcome them in and hate to see them go.

That's how they feel down here about the business men who have been lining their pockets on government time since the Great Crusade of Dwight D. Eisenhower came to Washington in 1953.

Asked on a television program if he thought Dixon-Yates were as big a scandal as Teapot Dome, Senator Estes Kefauver (D., Tenn.) said it was worse. Asked why, he said in the first place only $1 million of public property was stolen at Teapot Dome, whereas billions are at stake in the Eisenhower campaign to turn TVA over to private bankers and utility operators.

IN IKE'S OFFICE

In the second place, said Kefauver, the oil gang had to bribe government officials to turn the stuff over to them in Teapot Dome days, whereas today they are invited to come in and take it, welcomed with open arms.

That's how the First Boston Corporation, giant investment banking house of Wall Street, was welcomed into the Executive Office of the President to hatch the Dixon-Yates steal.

Before recessing his subcommittee hearings for a few weeks, Kefauver nailed down some striking examples of the new morality that flows over Washington from the White House.

It will be recalled that in August, 1954, the President told a press conference that he had directed his Budget Bureau and the Atomic Energy Commission to make a clean breast of all the parties who participated and all the steps taken leading up to the Dixon-Yates contract.

In September, therefore, these two agencies published "chronologies" of all meetings that had taken place, who was there, what was done.

The Atomic Energy Commission's deputy general manager has now testified before Kefauver's committee that the first draft of these chronologies listed the names of First Boston Corporation people who, while still on their private payroll, were sitting in on the inside meetings as government officials.

He told how the assistant budget director, Rowland Hughes, ordered that their names be stricken from the chronologies and how the AEC general manager agreed with this. The names were taken out, he said, and the falsified documents were then released to the press.

Many months later, but before the above testimony was taken, the President assured a press conference that First Boston's man Wenzell had nothing to do with Dixon-Yates.

Other testimony before Kefauver's committee has brought to light how the White House exerts powerful political influence on governmental agencies that were set up by Congress to administer laws impartially.

Westinghouse Bid to Break Union Fails; Contract Won

KANSAS CITY, Missouri—An attempt by the management of the Westinghouse Jet Engine plant here to bust the union has failed. Instead of breaking the back of UAW-CIO Local 324, the Company was forced to agree to a new contract which immediately raised the average hourly rate from $1.83½ to $2.02 for production and maintenance workers, and which will boost this rate to $2.18 through step-ups within the next 26 months.

But it took 85 bargaining sessions and a bitter nine-week strike to reach the settlement. The old contract having expired on October 31, 1954, the membership continued to work without a contract while the Local's bargaining committee tried to reach an agreement.

When these efforts failed, the Local went on strike last June. The Company was unable to get enough scabs to reopen. At one stage pickets sat on railroad tracks leading into the plant to keep a fuel train out.

Announcing the settlement this month, UAW-CIO Region 5 Director Russell Letner praised the solidarity of the Local 324 membership.

"They held solid in the face of Company attempts to open the plant to bring in scabs and to break the Union. Their fine spirit and determination did more than anything else to bring this strike to a successful conclusion."

Aside from the wage boost for the production and maintenance workers, the contract calls for a wage increase for workers in the experimental unit which will bring their average hourly wage to $2.30 within the next 26 months. It also sets up a pension program for the 2,000 workers which the Local represents.

GAW Is Bursting Out All Over

Midsummer settlements containing the principles of the Guaranteed Annual Wage were bursting out all over as this issue went to press.

Big corporations and small, in all portions of the country, are signing for the pattern—including the GAW. Union negotiators currently are bargaining with scores of other managements. While agreement was not always near—and while there are scattered attempts to chisel on the pattern—the principles of the GAW were generally on the table.

Two corporations, Chrysler and International Harvester, are seeking to restrict the coverage of GAW, but recognition of the GAW and the five-cent-an-hour financing is part of their offers.

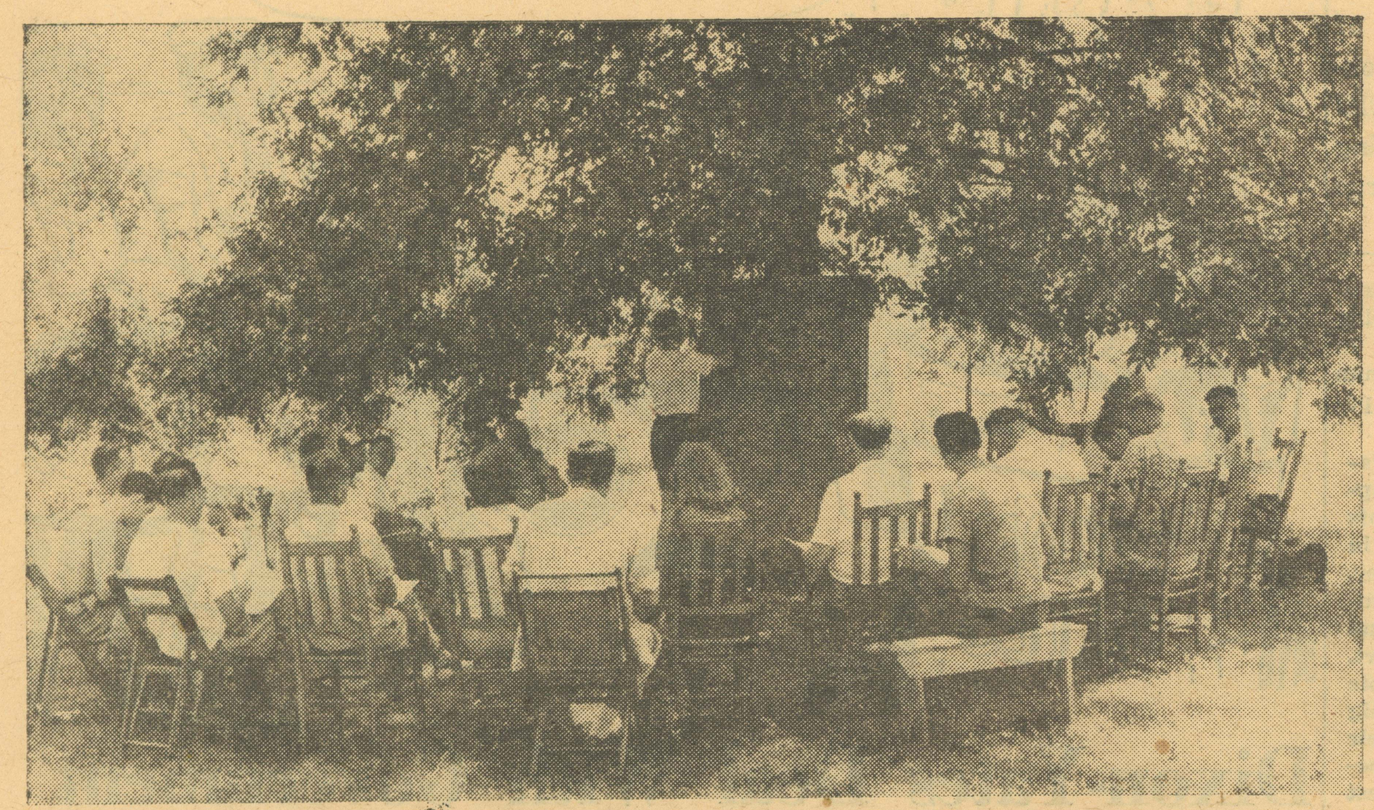
The smallest employer reported so far is Pittsfield Products in Region 1B, which has a GAW plan for 46 workers, and close behind are Lansing, Michigan, Tool & Die with 50 workers; Barcy-Nicholson, Region 1A, 52; Monroe, Michigan, Tool and Manufacturing with 71.

On the other end of the scale are corporations like Budd, in Philadelphia, with more than 8,000 workers; White Motor in Cleveland with 4,000; Spicer in Toledo with 2,500, and major firms like Caterpillar and John Deere with 18,000 and 12,500 workers, respectively.

Many other corporations with employment ranging from a hundred to well over a thousand have signed to further establish the UAW-CIO contracts with Ford and GM as a standard for industry.

Other unions are securing settlements with Guaranteed Wage provisions. The principle on which the UAW pioneered already is gaining nationwide acceptance.

THESE UNUSUAL SCHOOLS AR



LEARNING UNDER THE LEAVES: Canadian UAW-CIOers flocked over the border for two separate weeks of school at the FDR-CIO Labor Center near Port Huron, Michigan. Here a group of the students from Canadian local unions list the objectives of a community services program.

MANY ARE CALLED, BUT . . .: They've already been chosen, and any fellows who didn't hear their wives whooping for them in this husband-calling contest probably heard about it later. The contest was part of the after-hours recreation program at Region 3's summer school at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

VISITORS . . . Because workers' education is considered of topflight importance by unions all over the world, UAW-CIO Summer Schools often are visited by many union representatives from other lands. Here a group of Indonesian unionists at Region 10 school at the University of Wisconsin posed with UAW teachers and students after joining in a session on the United Nations. The Indonesians also stressed the UN importance to world peace and security.

Summer Sessions Provide 23 For 4,000 UAW-CIO Member

For UAW-CIO members, education doesn't stop with reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic.

By summer's end, about 4,000 of them will have attended school once more.

The students are unusual, for they've long since left formal schooling behind. They're workers who hold skilled jobs, production jobs or white-collar jobs in auto factories, aircraft plants, farm equipment manufacturing, foundries and many other plants where wage earners are represented by the Union.

The UAW-CIO summer schools they're attending this year stretch from Black Mountain, N. C., and Storrs, Conn., on the nation's east coast to California's Hot Springs on the west, from Canada in the north to Norman, Okla., in the south.

A total of 23 individual one-week summer schools is being held this year. Starting June 19 and scheduled to end September 24, they'll be attended by an estimated 4,000 UAW-CIO members from about 700 Local Unions.

They have their pick of a wide variety of labor courses, with a few subjects being taught for all. Among subjects members can select, for example, are union administration, collective bargaining, time study, education leadership, recreation methods, labor journalism, stewards' training, industrial safety, political action techniques, labor history, fair practices, labor law, programs for retired workers, and public speaking.

Taken up at general sessions of all students, and then discussed in individual buzz groups, were the Union's collective bargaining program and automation. The first course covered details of major contracts signed thus far this year as well as UAW-CIO's bargaining goals. The sessions on automation are planned to broaden understanding of automation's impact on workers, industries and communities and to develop ideas of ways in which it can be harnessed for the benefit of society.

At most schools, moreover, general sessions also are being held on the United Nations. These cover

CLEARING THE AIR: How will automation affect workers? Jobs? The economy? Vitally concerned with these questions, students at Region 9-A's summer school at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut, thrashed out these questions at an out-of-doors buzz session.

ARE FOR UNUSUAL STUDENTS

de 23 Weeks of Education
embers From Coast to Coast

the organization's work and operations. Also discussed at these sessions are arguments favoring and opposed to the UN.

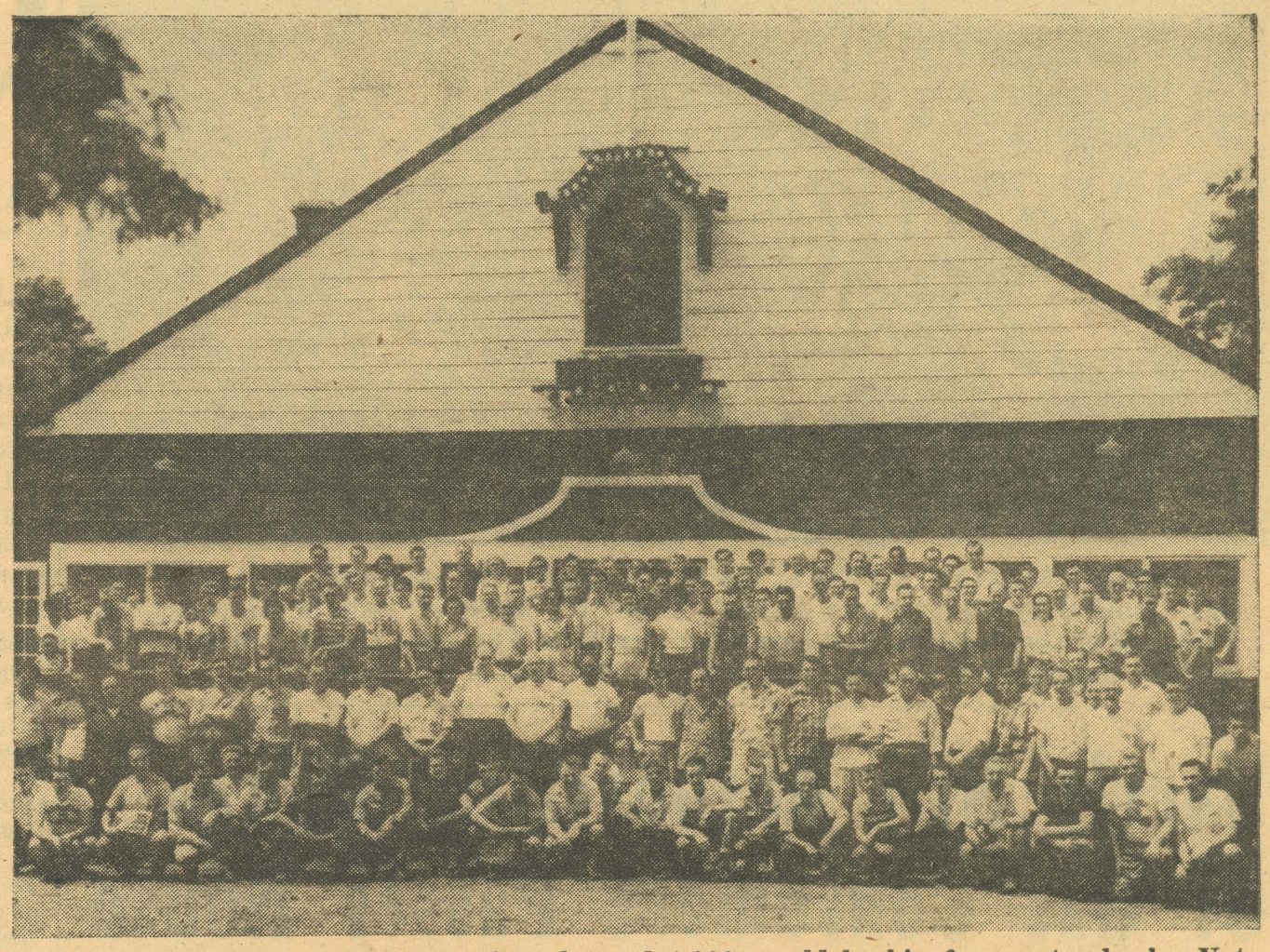
Each of these general session courses have been receiving enthusiastic responses. UAW-CIO Education Director Brendan Sexton reports, for example, that members at the automation sessions have been coming up with important ideas of their own on ways of approaching the problems which can be created by this industrial development.

"That's one of the purposes of UAW-CIO summer schools," Sexton said. "It's not a matter of someone getting up in front of a group in a classroom and lecturing. Instead, the Union's schools are designed to get the students to take part in the classwork and in the development of ideas."

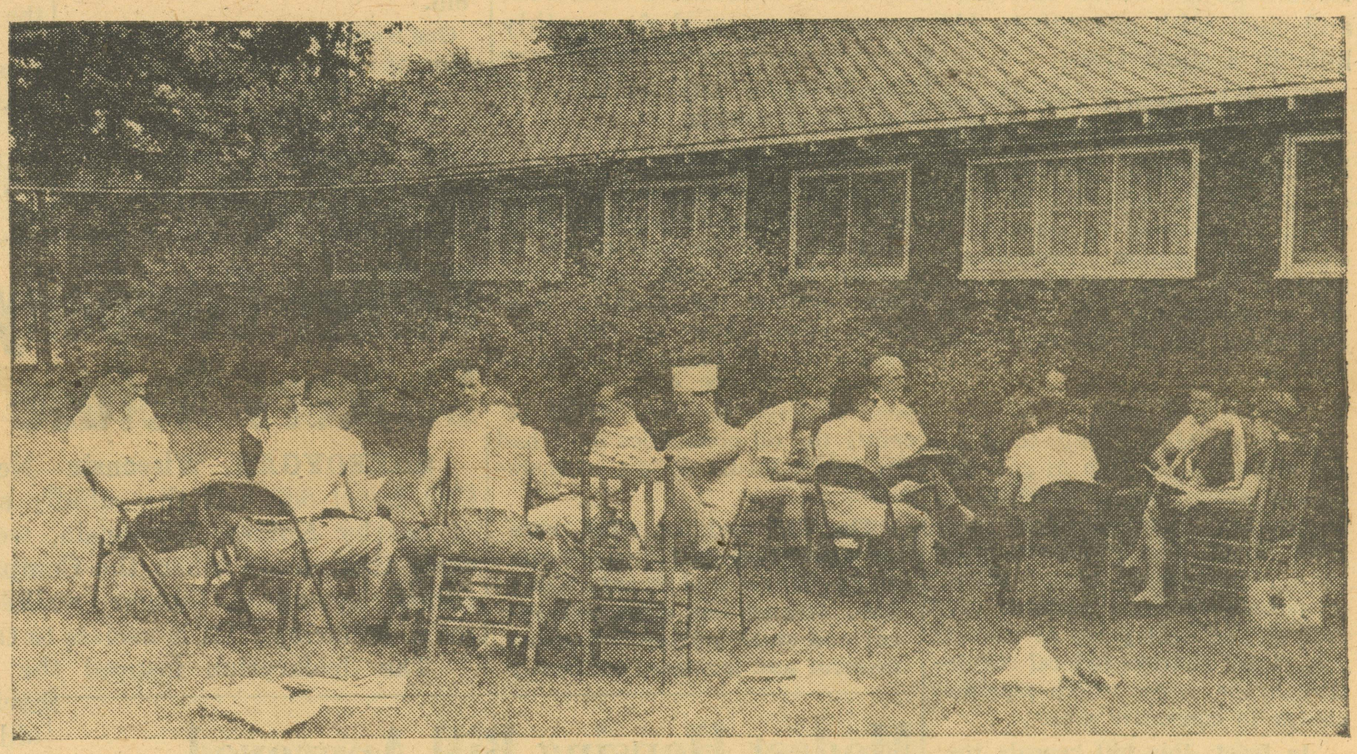
The Education Department takes a similar approach to other subjects. Members are encouraged to learn by doing. They make their own time studies, for instance, to learn that technique along with the different gimmicks companies can develop in rating jobs; students taking up the course on handling grievances similarly tackle actual cases, while those who may be studying labor journalism do the actual work of gathering and writing news and publicity material, whipping it into shape and arranging it for the pages of an actual shop newspaper.

Interest in the collective bargaining goal course has been intense, Sexton said. Details of the major contract settlements have been explained and analyzed while, at the same time, the arguments advanced by industry and business groups against UAW-CIO's contract gains and proposals also have been taken apart and answered.

From its inception, the Union's education program has been shaped to bring about increased membership understanding of UAW's goals and helping build Union progress for each member, Sexton pointed out. This year, that is going forward on a larger, more intense scale than ever.



GRADUATES . . . A graduating class of 4,000 would be big for most schools. Yet UAW-CIO Summer School graduates will number about that many this year. Here are the students who completed courses at one of the schools—ready to carry the subjects they've learned back to the members at home.



BUZZIN' OUT OF DOORS: UAW-CIO summer schools have come up with regular outdoor sessions, and the buzz groups discussing the points raised during classes also get together in the open air. Here two small discussion groups hammer away at a summer-school subject at one of the Union's sessions at Port Huron, Michigan.

BOYCOTT AID: The story of Local 833's lengthy valiant strike against the recessive Kohler Company was carried to Region 10's summer school at Madison, Wisconsin, by members of the striking Sheboygan local. Here two of them tell the issues in the strike and its background to AFL Teachers Union members.

BACKBONE OF PUBLICITY . . . Local Unions used mimeographed leaflets, handbills and shop papers from their start. The mimeograph still is one of the Local's most important means of reaching its members. Here, students at Region 2's school at Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, learn how to put the machine to work for their Local Union.

THESE ARE JUST A FEW of the 32,000 people who attended the gigantic annual picnic of North American Aircraft Local 927, Columbus, Ohio, in Buckeye Lake Park, one of the state's largest amusement centers. The huge crowd consumed uncounted thousands of hot dogs and popsicles and cups of ice cream.

Harris Bill Authorizing Gouge Of Gas Consumers Passes House

WASHINGTON—The Harris Natural Gas Bill narrowly missed defeat several times—but each time survived. The public, however, still has another chance to kill off this $800 million gouge which can cost household consumers who heat and cook with gas $40 to $55 a year more on their monthly bills in a short time.

The bill passed the House of Representatives, 209 to 203, late last month, but it still must get through the Senate which is expected to consider it early next session. Republicans supplied 123 votes and Democrats, 86, to carry the bill with 137 Democrats and 66 Republicans against.

REPEALS 1938 ACT

While the bill pretends to knock out federal regulation of gas producers' prices and to substitute a requirement that interstate pipelines cannot pay producers more than a "reasonable market price," it actually kills all federal control of the field price of natural gas. That destroys federal regulation of the prices which pipelines charge in consumer areas.

In brief, this bill repeals the Natural Gas Act, passed by Congress in 1938 to protect buyers of this commodity which is supplied to them, like electricity and water, as a public utility service of a local monopoly operating under public franchise.

Senator Fulbright (D., Arkansas), sponsor of the companion bill in the Senate frankly revealed that the intent of the bill is to kill price controls. So did Representative Harris in the Congressional Record of the House debate.

Neither statement was available to the Representatives when they voted but both will be there for any judge trying to discover the intent of Congress in the future if the bill passes.

$55 MILLION WINDFALL

The Harris Bill is written for the 174 oil and gas companies which sell more than 90 per cent of the natural gas sold to pipelines. Phillips Petroleum, Standard of Indiana, Standard of New Jersey, Socony-Vacuum, Shell, Gulf, Atlantic Refining, Skelly Oil, Sun Oil and the Texas Company sold 37½ per cent of all the gas sold to pipelines in 1953.

These 10—if the Harris Bill lets them boost the price of gas by 15 cents a thousand feet—as it will—will pick up a clear windfall of $55 million of additional profits on just one year's sales of gas.

Since the passing margin was only six votes in the House out of 412 members present and voting, Senator Fulbright's testimony released the day after the vote, revealing the true purpose of the bill might easily have swung enough House votes to wipe out the narrow margin.

CLOSE IN SENATE

A count of Senators today indicates a stand-off among those Senators who can be counted for or against the bill with some assurance. Among the doubtful Senators, supporters of the bill—thanks to a propaganda campaign with a $1,500,000 war chest—appear to have an edge. Until recently the oil companies have had the public forum almost to themselves.

The CIO and the ADA were on hand to speak for consumers at the House and Senate hearings. Mayors and other municipal and state officials presented forceful and informed testimony against the gas gouge. Seventy-seven cities, with aggregate population of 30 million, appeared or filed statements against the bill.

Gas consumers facing the equivalent of a 2 to 2¾ cents per hour wage cut (unless they want to go to the expense of scrapping their gas-fired equipment and shift to coal) still can tell their Senators how they feel about it.

Modest Housing Bill Approved By Congress in Spite of Ike

WASHINGTON—The bogus public housing program which President Eisenhower backed and put through the Republican 83rd Congress was displaced by a genuine, although small-scale, public housing program in the last days of the first session of the 84th Congress.

President Eisenhower's 35,000-unit plan for one or two years as replacement of units eliminated by slum clearance was beaten, 44-38, in the Senate.

TO HELP BANKERS

The Senate then restored the hitherto unused public housing goal of the 1949 Housing Act—135,000 units of public housing a year up to a total of 600,000 units. It also provided for 10,000 units a year for five years for aged persons and $500 million in loans and grants for college housing.

In subsidies to private interests, the bill provided an additional $4 billion for FHA insurance, $1.3 billion to insure mortgages on military housing, and $500 million for urban renewal, most of which will be used to underwrite private development projects. This gravy train of almost $6 billion in subsidies to builders and bankers eventually forced the bill through to final enactment — carrying the public housing "caboose" along with it.

The House cut the Senate's program to 35,000 units of public housing a year and 10,000 units a year of housing for the aged for two years. Four Republicans and two southern Democrats on the House Rules Committee joined to bottleneck the bill in committee for five weeks.

AMENDMENT STRIPS BILL

The bill went to the floor just before the session ended and an amendment by Wolcott (R., Michigan) cutting out not only public housing and housing for the aged, but also farm housing, college housing, GI family housing and aids to municipal public facilities was passed, 217-188.

The Senate-House Conference Committee compromised by recommending a one-year program of 45,000 public housing units. The compromise bill passed the Senate by a voice vote and the House, 187-168, with 153 Democrats and 34 Republicans voting in favor.

The Public Housing Administration already has done the preliminary work on 100,000 units and can put the 45,000 authorized units under definite contract by the first of the year. More than likely, however, the administration will reverse the decision of Congress and put the program back to the nominal limit of 35,000 units with actual performance considerably below that figure.

ODDS 'N ENDS

by Ruby McDonald

SMALL FRY HEAD FOR SCHOOL; SCHOOL NEEDS ON THE PAN

All over the country, groups of men and women are waiting nervously for the patter of little feet which, this year, will sound somewhat like a stampede of maddened elephants looking for a place to trumpet.

School starts in September and to school board members it will be sort of a housewives nightmare where you have four overnight guests and only one bed in the joint.

SOMETHING'S MISSING

They have been told that it is real george for local people to solve their own school housing problems but the government issue pep circular was missing a page. The one that explains how.

The Administration has been so busy planning a Buck Rogers future based on home-packaged atoms and rocket-type footballs that they haven't had time to make reservations for the next generation, to say nothing of this one.

That leaves it up to school boards who are caught between the 'lil devils and the deep blue sea of financial embarrassment.

Probably most of 'em haven't realized it yet, but GAW will be to them what back alimony is to a starving divorcee.

The reason is simple. Trying to get more school tax from folks who had an unemployment ghost breathing down their necks, was like trying to lure a hobo with a cross-cut saw.

NEED U. S. HELP

You can't blame Mom and Pop for this attitude, either. It wasn't that they were reluctant to help build student shelters. They just wanted to be sure the kid had some place to sleep after school was out.

Assured of reasonable security for the future, they won't exactly hold street dances to celebrate new levies, but they undoubtedly will divvy up their share without dreaming of welfare benches.

It's a gold-plated cinch something has to be done. The stork brigade is the only production line in the world that doesn't operate on the law of supply and demand, and most parents have figured out that if they want Johnny to learn arithmetic, they have to help provide space so the kid next door can learn geography.

It's gonna be hard to get Congress out of the stratosphere and into the kindergarten. The top brass has gone hog-wild in the building of a push-button world, and it looks like it's up to us to make the next generation smart enough to push 'em.

And it helps a lot to know we can count today's chickens while next year's batch is hatching.

Kohler Company Offers Long Rope; Strikers Refuse to Hang Themselves

SHEBOYGAN, Wisconsin—Negotiations between UAW-CIO Local 833 and the rabidly anti-labor Kohler Company of nearby Kohler, Wisconsin, were broken off once again early this month when the Company's chief spokesman, attorney Lyman C. Conger, walked out of a Chicago hotel room declaring: "It is useless to talk further."

The declaration insured the continuance of the bitter strike, now nearly 17 months old and the nation's longest major labor dispute.

UNANIMOUS VOTE

Within 24 hours after the Conger walkout, a mass membership meeting of the Local in the Sheboygan Armory voted unanimously to reject the Company's so-called "offer to end the strike."

Despite temperatures in the 90's, more than 2,000 Kohler strikers jammed the building and shouted down the Company's proposal. Kohler actually ask the Union to sign a contract for the benefit of the scabs, while the great majority of the strikers would have remained where they are now—outside the plant. Unwilling to vote their own jobs out of existence, the Kohler strikers voted to a man to continue the strike and to intensify their nationwide boycott campaign.

The Company's offer, as explained to the membership by UAW-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey and Region 10 Director Harvey Kitzman, called for the reinstatement of only about 500 of the more than 2,000 strikers, and then not necessarily into their old job classifications. At the same time, it offered a five-cent across-the-board wage increase, plus five cents for certain classifications. As the Company figured it, this wage boost would go primarily to the scabs.

Declared Mazey: "What the Company said, in effect, was—'Here's a rope. Go hang yourself'."

Mazey called on the membership and on the community to convince the scabs that their interests lie with the Union and not the Company.

HEARING CONTINUES

Speaking of the current National Labor Relations Board hearings in Sheboygan, brought on by the 11 unfair labor practice charges levelled by the local against the Company, Mazey noted that if the NLRB rules the Kohler strike to be an unfair labor practice strike, then the Company can be required to reinstate all the strikers.

Meanwhile, the Union filed a new unfair labor practice charge with the Board, after the Company put into effect—for the scabs—the wage boost it had "offered" the Union.

Regional Director Kitzman declared that Kohler spokesman Conger was interested only in "liquidating Local 833."

"Apparently it's going to take a little bit longer to convince him he's not going to get away with it," Kitzman told the huge crowd.

Another speaker at the mass meeting, International Representative Robert Burkart, told the members that the scabs "who are trying to steal your jobs" prevented a settlement in Chicago.

Many Eligible For Improved Medical Plan

UAW members employed in Michigan plants of Ford and General Motors now are eligible to enroll in the $5,000 Income Ceiling Blue Shield surgical or surgical and medical care plans.

Under this plan participating physicians agree to accept the Blue Shield allowance as full payment for surgical operations on the worker or his family providing the average yearly income in the worker's family for the last three years is $5,000 or less (or $3,750 or less for a single worker).

Merged Labor Organization to Be Called AFL-CIO; CIO's Board Okays Industrial Union Department

With all major problems met and disposed of, the proposed merger of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor into one body representing over 15,000,000 American workers now is only a few months away.

The Joint Unity Committee unanimously agreed to consolidate the present names of the two groups for a name for the new labor federation. It will be called the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO).

UAW and CIO President Walter P. Reuther told newsmen he was "confident" the CIO Executive Board would approve the new name and noted that it "embodies the names of both organizations on an equal basis."

"All the major problems of unity are now behind us," Reuther said. "The remaining problems are merely mechanical and procedural."

SHORTEST CONVENTION

Earlier this month the AFL cleared the deck for the merger by conducting a special one-hour convention, the shortest in labor history, in Chicago. The delegates approved postponement of the regular AFL convention until December 1 in New York City. The CIO already has rescheduled its regular convention for December 1-2 in New York.

After the simultaneous conventions, the CIO and AFL delegates will meet together starting December 5 to adopt a constitution and proceed with the official merger of the two organizations into the AFL-CIO. The new organization, by mutual agreement, will be headed by George Meany, president of the AFL.

The CIO Executive Board also has adopted unanimously plans for financing and functions of the Industrial Union Department of the new merged labor federation.

The IUD will be financed by an additional two-cent per capita. The per capita for the new AFL-CIO will be four cents per month. The CIO Board voted to contribute, for the first three months of the new federation's existence, four cents per member per month into the new IUD.

ORGANIZING MAPPED

President Reuther described this fund as one designed to "cushion" the impact of transfer and to set in motion "the most effective, comprehensive organizing campaign ever undertaken in the history of the trade union movement."

The Board, after full discussion of the need for a massive organizing campaign, agreed to create a multi-million dollar fund for organizing the unorganized, with present unions of both federations being urged to contribute. Under terms of the merger agreement, the Organizing Department of the AFL-CIO will be headed by a person chosen by the CIO and appointed by the new president.

The IUD, the CIO Executive Board agreed, will limit its functions to aiding and serving industrial unions. Reuther described the department as "providing a meeting place for industrial unions." It will provide liaison service between industrial unions, working with them "on problems common to industrial unions," Reuther said.

Runaway Comes Home

Like the little boy who wanted to run away from home but didn't get any further than the nearest street corner before he had a change of heart, a Detroit lamp manufacturer has "run away" from his "runaway" operation.

The Hall Lamp Company, whose workers are represented by UAW-CIO Local 304, had always operated its own die casting department to supply die castings for the manufacture of lamps. But a few years ago the firm decided to move its die casting operation to Elwood, Indiana, setting up operations there under the name of Indiana Die Casting Company.

Apparently the runaway shop didn't work out too well, because it has just closed its doors and moved back to Detroit.

Now what was that the NAM said about labor costs?

GET MILITARY LEAVES

About a tenth of the 1,730 collective bargaining agreements studied recently by the Labor Department provided for employer payments to workers entering the Armed Forces or for time off for National Guard or Reserve Corps duty (other than active military service).

Hughes Named Assistant To Veep Norm Matthews

Art Hughes, formerly co-assistant director of the Chrysler Department, has been named administrative assistant to Vice-President Norman Matthews. Ted McManus has been named assistant director of the American Motors Council and O. M. Hawkins appointed to coordinate work of other councils Matthews heads.

Douglas Fraser, administrative assistant to UAW President Walter P. Reuther, remains in that postion. *The United Automobile Worker* last month erroneously reported his transfer to another administrative post. *The United Automobile Worker* regrets its error.

CIO, AFL Members to March Together Labor Day in Detroit

The year 1955 is Labor Unity Year with the long-sought merger of the CIO and the AFL scheduled to become a reality in early December.

In recognition of the merger of the two great labor federations, AFL and CIO union members will march together in the annual Labor Day Parade in Detroit for the first time in history.

Since 1948, the AFL and CIO have joined in the celebration of Labor Day but the marchers paraded on opposite sides of the street. Before that, one organization paraded Labor Day morning and the other in the afternoon.

This year affiliates of both organizations will parade together—a symbol of labor unity.

An address by former President Harry S. Truman will highlight the ceremonies at Cadillac Square after the parade. Truman will be speaking at the same site where he kicked off his successful campaign for re-election to the presidency in 1948.

Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer of the UAW-CIO, also will speak at the Cadillac Square rally while others on the program include Governor Williams, Lieutenant Governor Philip Hart, Frank X. Martel, head of the Detroit Federation of Labor, and Senator Patrick McNamara.

Elsewhere across the country, UAW-CIO officers, executive board members, regional and local union officials are scheduled to speak at numerous local rallies and local union members also will march in what promises to be the greatest national observance of Labor Day ever.

MRS. ROSE COVELLI, who is 83, was honored at the first anniversary party of the Old Timers Club of Local 72, Kenosha, Wisconsin. She is the oldest living retired member of the local. Holding the birthday cake is Local President Raymond Neu. Others, from left to right, are: Recording Secretary Edward Paulsen, Trustee Tony Russo, Vice-President Leo Downing, Board Member Jack Rice, Mrs. Covelli, Club Chairman Joseph Roemer, Financial Secretary W. G. Kult and Board Member Casey Gray.

'Different' Celebration

MADISON, Wisconsin (PAI)—The Madison Federation of Labor and CIO representatives are planning a "different" Labor Day celebration. TV programs, band concerts, a drum and bugle corps exhibition, a few short speeches and a fireworks display are on the schedule.

Official Reaction to Scandal:

GOP Rewards Talbott With Defense Medal; Bombers, Bands, Bigwigs Bid Him 'Bye Bye'

WASHINGTON — Harold E. Talbott, the Air Force Secretary who resigned when found soliciting business on Air Force stationery for his private firm, had the medal of freedom pinned on him by bird-dog Charlie Wilson on the day he departed.

Wilson awarded Talbott the medal for "exceptionally meritorious service." It is the Defense Department's highest civilian award. Only two others have received it.

With a fly-over of 10 B-47 Stratojet bombers, a parade of 1,800 men and the Air Force band playing "So Long, It's Been Good to Know You," bigwig Republicans made a field day of the latest mess in Washington.

On hand to honor Talbott, in addition to Defense Secretary Wilson, were Attorney General Brownell, Commerce Secretary Weeks, new Air Force Secretary Folsom, Navy Secretary Thomas and Army Secretary Bruckner. Senator Margaret Chase Smith (R., Me.), the newspapers report, kissed Talbott good-bye.

Talbott was leaving because a Senate investigating committee discovered that he had been writing and contacting defense contractors to interest them in buying the services of Mulligan and Company, a firm in which Talbott was one of two partners and from which he had been receiving profits of $65,000 a year.

Also it had come out that Talbott, who had told the Senate Armed Services Committee, when up for confirmation as Secretary, that he would get rid of his stockholdings in defense contractors, actually turned some of these stocks over to his minor children.

Also it had come out that it was Talbott who authorized government air transport to carry the Moral Rearmament junket around Asia at the reduced rental available ordinarily only for official use of such aircraft. Moral Rearmament is a quasi-religious outfit with a strong affection for big business and a dim view of labor unions.

So Talbott had to go. But from the President down the Republican Administration has shown no sense of shock over his abuse of high government office.

Accepting his resignation on August 1, President Eisenhower wrote him a letter containing not one word of disapproval of Talbott's conduct. On the contrary, Eisenhower said, "Your diligence in the administration of your department has been unexcelled. On behalf of our people and their government, I commend you for your fine accomplishments as secretary."

Successor to Talbott as Air Secretary is another product of big business. Donald Quarles from Bell Telephone and Western Electric, from which he draws a lifetime pension of $10,000 a year.

Although he has been the Assistant Secretary of Defense for almost two years, Quarles now says, on taking his new office, that he would move immediately to review his business stockholdings and get rid of any that might imply a conflict of interest.

What's he been waiting for?

'What's the Matter? I Didn't Get a Mink Coat'

Talbott Used Federal Contacts For World War I Contracts, Too

The real Harold Talbott story didn't get much play in the press, but columnist Drew Pearson dared delve into the background of the Air Force Secretary who was forced to resign when a Senate committee discovered he was using his position to get business for a private company in which he was a partner.

The otherwise almost ignored facts presented by Pearson show that Talbott got the Air Force appointment because of his fund-raising ability for Tom Dewey and for President Eisenhower in their election campaigns.

NOT NEW FOR HIM

They also indicate that promoting a private firm through a connection with the government wasn't anything new for Talbott.

Pearson wrote in his syndicated column on July 30:

"He (Talbott) raised so much money for Dewey that he was all set to become U. S. Ambassador to the Court of St. James. The Talbott daughters had even picked their gowns to appear in court—when the news came on that gray November dawn in 1948 that Dewey wasn't President after all."

Describing Talbott as a "likeable, dynamic, rough-and-tumble sparkplug," Pearson reported that Talbott "also happens to belong to a little group who helped found the General Motors empire and who made a fortune out of airplanes that never flew in World War I."

"He was not a man Ike should ever have appointed to a Defense Cabinet position," wrote Pearson. "But because the Roosevelt Administration had fired him from the War Production Board aircraft division in World War II, Talbott wanted to stage a comeback. So, with the Party owing him a big debt as GOP moneyraiser, Talbott was made Secretary of the Air Force."

Pearson uncovered a report made in 1917 by former Supreme Court Justice Charles Evans Hughes at the request of President Wilson.

"Hughes spent weeks," Pearson reported, "digging into the reasons why airplanes were not produced in World War I, and, among other things, made some scathing references to Talbott, then president of a war company formed to make Liberty Motors.

HUGHES LASHED TALBOTT

"With Talbott in the company were his father; Charles Kettering, later vice-president of General Motors; and Edward A. Deeds, head of Delco Battery which became a General Motors subsidiary.

"Hughes in his report charged them with 'conduct of a reprehensible character,' but said they could not be prosecuted under existing law. But he went on to recommend a court-martial for E. A. Deeds, their former partner.

"Deeds had been made a colonel in the Army in charge of aircraft procurement, from which inside position he proceeded, according to Hughes, to 'convey information to Mr. Talbott in an improper manner with respect to the transaction of business between that company and the division of the Signal Corps of which Colonel Deeds was the head.'

"In other words," concluded Pearson, "Colonel Deeds, from the vantage point of the Army, was helping to run his old business with Talbott, just as Talbott recently helped run his business with Paul Mulligan."

UAW Exposed Talbott's 'Dual Interests' in 1953

The UAW-CIO exposed a connection between ex-Air Force Secretary Harold Talbott and a firm doing business with the Air Force back in July of 1953.

Ex-Secretary Talbott presided over the cancellation of a Kaiser-Frazer plant contract at Willow Run which threw thousands of UAW members out of work.

In a hearing protesting the abrupt cancellation of the Air Force order with K-F, UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey pointed out that Talbott had close links with Fairchild, which got the K-F contract.

Mazey observed that Talbott, as a member of the board of directors of Electric Auto-Lite, had close connections with the four Flood brothers all of whom were either executives of Auto-Lite or Fairchild (or both).

Mazey cited a Fairchild report stockholders in which the Corporation bluntly stated that it anticipated administration help in its competitive battle with K-F. After tracing the history of the cancelled contracts, Mazey accused the Air Force of taking sides against K-F.

Talbott said that if he took a contract away from K-F and gave it to Fairchild because of connections with the Flood brothers, he would be a crook. He demanded that Mazey apologize.

Mazey told him, "Mr. Talbott, I don't know you well enough to know whether or not an apology is coming to you."

Ex-Secretary Talbott is much better known now than he was then.

Curdled

WASHINGTON — The Administration show to prove that all was peaches and cream over the Talbott "resignation" went off fine but the cream went sour.

Newsmen overheard Talbott angrily tell Defense Secretary Wilson, "You haven't done one thing to defend me," during the ceremonies at the Pentagon.

Newspaper cameramen caught pictures of the two frowning and moments later with stage smiles on their faces for the farewell handshakes.

UAW Urges Civil Rights Action, Raps Congressional 'Roadblocks'

WASHINGTON—Rapping the Senate filibuster and a bipartisan coalition in the House Rules Committee, the UAW-CIO last month called for Congress to overcome these "roadblocks" and to enact an effective federal FEPC and other civil rights legislation in a hearing before a Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee.

"These obstacles can be overcome by determination and stamina of the type displayed by the enemies of civil rights legislation," declared the UAW-CIO statement, presented by William H. Oliver, co-director of the Union's Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department, and Paul Sifton, UAW National Legislative Representative.

"The House Rules Committee pocket veto can be set aside; the Senate filibuster can be broken when the majority decides to break it by wearing the filibusterers down and out, meanwhile dramatizing for the American people the fact, too little known and understood, that we do NOT have majority rule."

The statement cited latest U. S. Census figures to show that the rate of unemployment among non-whites is twice the rate among whites. Of 2,679,000 reported unemployed for the week of June 5-12, there were 2,177,000 white and 502,000 non-white. Expressed as percentages of the non-military labor force, the white jobless rate was 3.7 and the non-white, 7.0.

If, as business spokesmen contend, the accelerating automation of factories and offices is going to require more and more highly-trained and educated workers, then the discrimination now existing is going to become greater since a smaller proportion of Negro youth finish high school and university courses because their families often lack money to finance education, the UAW representatives pointed out.

Rags to Riches

SACRAMENTO, California (PAI)—William A. Burkett, whose appointment as director of the California Department of Employment was opposed by organized labor in November, 1953, finally has been removed by Governor Goodwin J. Knight and shifted to the post of State Superintendent of Banks.

Reuther Chides 84th Congress For Leaving Major Work Undone

WASHINGTON—The second session of the 84th Congress needs to be far more productive of public-interest legislation than the one just ended, UAW and CIO President Walter P. Reuther said in a statement issued here as both houses of Congress closed up shop until next January.

On the credit side, said Reuther, was the fact that Congress did not attempt to engage in a "cold war" with the executive branch of the government. "Instead," he declared, "it attempted to enact sound legislation despite the absence of leadership from the White House and obstacles created by Administration forces."

Reuther asserted that the passage of liberal legislation was made difficult because Congress had to spend so much time defeating "unsound, special-interest" proposals put forward by the Administration.

FOR SPECIAL INTERESTS

Pointing out that Eisenhower claims to be "liberal" in matters affecting people, Reuther declared that in fact, the Administration "showed itself to be 'liberal' for the special interests, but unwilling to be liberal for the average citizens."

"The Eisenhower program," Reuther continued, "was a special interest program distributing its primary favors to the bankers and big corporations. . . . The CIO is heartened by evidence of a growing unity among liberals of both parties, and from all sections of the country. . . . We look for action during the second session to further weld this bipartisan liberal coalition."

Reuther said he was heartened by passage of the dollar-an-hour minimum wage bill; by the actions of Senator Walter George (D., Ga.) in paving the way for the Geneva conference and the new constructive, bipartisan foreign policy; by the scuttling of the infamous Dixon-Yates deal and by the end of the "evils of McCarthyism."

BIG OMISSIONS

But Reuther scored Congress for:

- failure to produce civil rights legislation—
- voting to soak consumers by adding $800 million to their natural gas bills—
- failure to vote for a school construction program—
- failure to reduce the tax loads of low and middle-income families—
- failure to amend the infamous Taft-Hartley Act.

Education Classes Scheduled on GM Contract Changes

Special education meetings for UAW-CIO General Motors workers will be held in 17 cities this fall, John W. Livingston, UAW vice-president and director of the Union's General Motors Department, has announced.

At each, there will be full discussion of the significant changes in the UAW-GM contract, Livingston said. Representatives of the GM Department will attend all meetings.

The first classes will be held September 12-13 in the Region 1A office, Detroit; Local 602 Hall, Lansing, Michigan, and Hotel Miami, Dayton, Ohio. On September 15-16, classes will be held in Local 651 Hall, Flint; Region 1D, Grand Rapids, and the Bancroft Hotel, Saginaw.

After that, sessions are scheduled in Cleveland, Buffalo, Pontiac, Indianapolis, Chicago, Atlanta, New York, Kansas City, Dallas, Los Angeles, and Oakland, California.

Similar classes were held in the fall of 1953 and 1954.

New Plant Organized

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma—Another step in organizing what is generally considered an anti-union community was taken here this month when workers at Aerial Design Aircraft Company voted 218 to 169 in favor of affiliating with the UAW-CIO. The vote was announced by Region 5 Director Russell Letner.

UE Fading

Two More Farm Implement Plants Won by Huge Vote

ST. PAUL, Minnesota—The UAW-CIO continues to make gains among workers in the agricultural implement industry. This month, the Union won lopsided victories in National Labor Relations Board elections held in the Twin Cities area, it was announced by Region 10 Director Harvey Kitzman.

Workers in the Moline Hopkins plant of the Minneapolis-Moline Implement Company voted 840 for the UAW-CIO and 49 for No Union. Nine ballots were voided. In the Company's Lake Street plant, the victory was even greater. The vote in that plant was as follows: 978 for UAW, 17 for No Union, and 2 void.

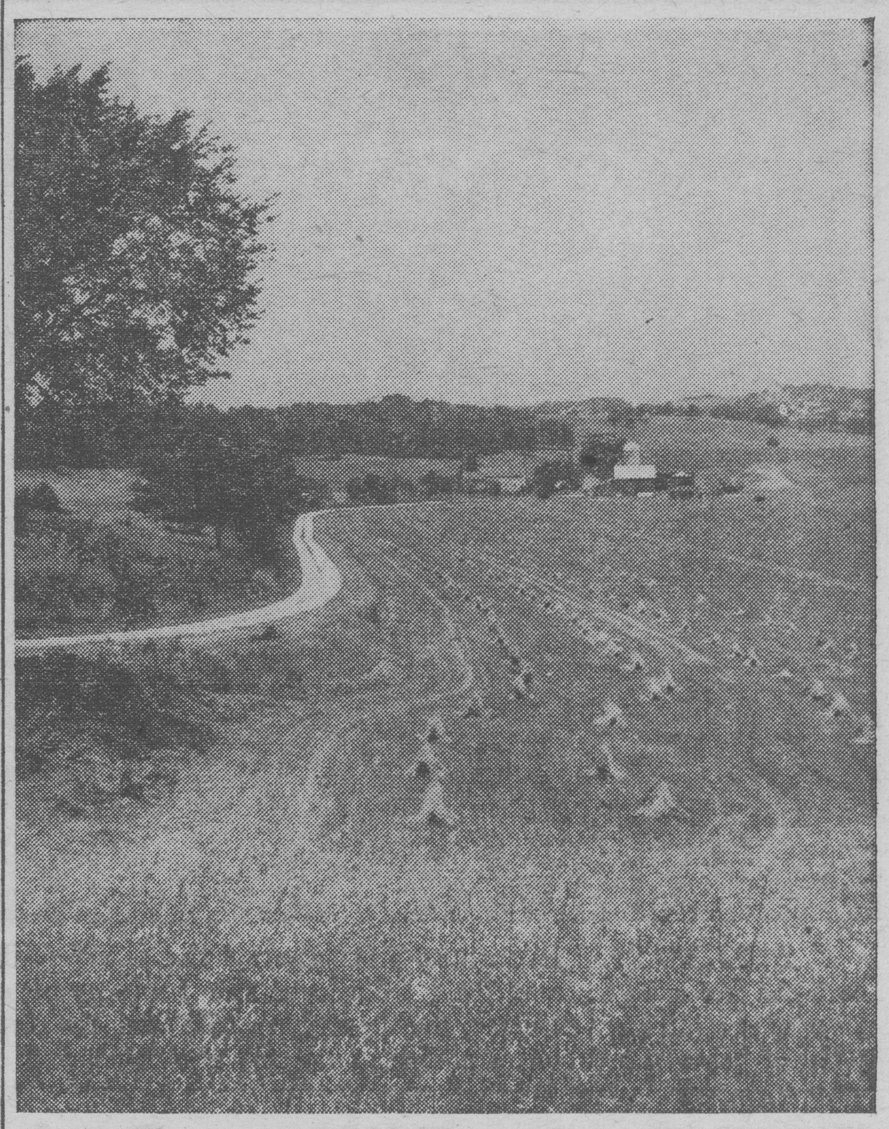
About a year ago, the UAW-CIO lost an election at the Hopkins plant by less than 100 votes.

The workers in these two plants were formerly represented by the independent United Electrical Workers. Tired of the UE's Communist-dominated national officers, the locals recently voted to secede and to affiliate with the UAW-CIO. So weak was the UE's support that it did not even bother to get on the NLRB ballot.

Wanna 'Feel Good'?

WASHINGTON (PAI)—When asked by a senator during the Dixon-Yates scandal inquiry why his company needed 42 vice presidents, George D. Woods, chairman of the First Boston Corporation board, replied: "Oh, it makes them feel good."

And employers charge some unions with "featherbedding."



IT'S HARVEST TIME, and bumper yields like the one on this Illinois farm are a frustration to American farmers. Producing more to make up for a declining income, farmers are finding that the spread between what he gets and what consumers pay gets larger and larger. Like many a speed up, the more many farmers produce, the less they earn.

More Work for Less Pay Plight of U.S. Farmers

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Agriculture Benson's sweatshop plan for American farmers is breaking out all over—more work for less pay.

Last month his Department again revised downward its calculation of farm operators' income for 1954. It is now figured at $11.6 billion, just $2 billion less than 1952, the year before Ike and Ezra took over. Last fall the Department was estimating farmers' '54 income at $12.5 billion. This had to be reduced in March to $11.9 billion and now it has been chopped some more.

HIGH PRICE VOTE

Farm operators' net income for 1955 will be $11 billion or less. Benson agricultural policies are costing American farmers more than $2.5 billion a year—quite a price to pay for the privilege of voting Republican, as most farmers did except in the South.

Failure of the Benson formula for farmers was further illustrated August 10 when his Department reported that farm output this year would be the greatest on record. Field crops will be equal to those of the peak year, 1948, and the big output of livestock products will push total farm performance to a new high.

Benson's plan was to persuade farmers to produce less by pulling down their price supports, although most everybody (except Benson) knows it doesn't work that way on the farm. As prices go down, output goes up.

Benson has put farm prices down, and farm output has gone up. From the post-Korea high of 313 in February, 1951, the index of farm prices had fallen to 267 when Eisenhower took office in Janury, 1953. This reaction from the Korea boom was inevitable. But farm prices continued to fall and by July, 1955, had got down to 237.

MIDDLEMAN BENEFITS

Wholesale prices of all products other than farm products and foods also had a Korea boom, but they didn't go down when the boom ended. They stand today at almost exactly the same level as the high point reached in 1951. That shows why farmers need price supports.

The parity ratio, which compares prices farmers receive with the prices they pay, hit the lowest figure in 15 years when it fell to 84 in July. It was 102 in July, 1952.

The share which farmers get of the money consumers spend for food at the retail store also has hit the lowest point in 15 years. Out of each consumer food dollar, farmers are getting 41 cents; processors, middlemen and distributors get 59 cents.

While the income of the farm population has gone down, income of the non-farm population has gone up. Income from all sources received by farm families and farm workers in 1951 was $23.4 billion. Last year it had fallen to $19.7 billion. During this same interval of time, the income of the non-farm population rose from $225.9 billion to $278.1 billion, a gain of $52.2 billion, or 23 per cent.

Borg-Warner Council Selects New Officers

Contract demands for 1955 were formulated and officers elected at the National Borg-Warner UAW-CIO Council meeting in Chicago last month, Wise W. Stone, assistant to the new B-W department director, Vice-President John W. Livingston, reports.

New council officers are:

President, Joseph Greulich, Local 363, Pesco Products, Cleveland, Ohio; Vice-President, Joseph Kolomay, Local 42, Morse Chain, Detroit, Michigan; Financial Secretary, Paul Cooley, Local 287, Warner Gear, Muncie, Indiana; Recording Secretary, Kenneth Kingsbury, Local 237, Mechanics Universal Joint, Memphis, Tennessee; Board Member-at-Large, Wilson Lowery, Local 225, Mechanics Universal Joint, Rockford, Illinois.

Alcoa Negotiations Open September 12

Negotiations on a wage reopener will begin with the Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) in Pittsburgh, September 12, Vice-President Richard Gosser, director of the UAW Alcoa Council, has announced.

The UAW-CIO Alcoa Council will meet in Detroit September 7-9 at Solidarity House to formulate wage demands. The Alcoa master agreement covers plants in Garwood, New Jersey; Cleveland; Bellwood, Illinois; and Vernon, California.

"WAIT'LL YOU COME BACK—I'LL TEAR YOU APART"
—From The Washington Post.

EMIL MAZEY, Secretary-Treasurer of the UAW-CIO, tells the Retired Workers at the annual picnic at Belle Isle about the indictment of their Union for alleged violation of Taft-Hartley for having candidates for federal offices appear on the UAW weekly television program during the 1954 fall election campaign.

MRS. ERNESTINE KRAJEWSKI, Detroit, 95, the oldest lady present, enjoyed a game of croquet during the afternoon. On the right is Robert J. McRitchie, a senior citizen of Local 900, who at 84 years was the oldest man attending the annual UAW-CIO picnic.

UAW Backs Bills to Curb Juvenile Delinquency Rate

WASHINGTON—A representative of the UAW-CIO has told Congress that the Union favors federal government efforts to combat juvenile delinquency. Testifying before the Special Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency of the U. S. Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, Mrs. Mildred Jeffrey, UAW-CIO community relations representative, said the Union was supporting Kefauver-Wiley bills, while at the same time criticizing their inadequate financing and short duration.

FOR BETTER BREAK

While the Senate has since adjourned without acting on the bills, the measures will come up again at the second session of the 84th Congress.

The UAW-CIO "has a profound and abiding interest in the welfare of the children and youth of our nation," Mrs. Jeffrey told the senators. "Much of the motivation of the men and women who built our Union, much of the emotional drive which drew workers to union membership and carried them through periods of struggle and hardship was the deep-seated desire to make a better world for their children."

Pointing out that the Union has done its share—through the process of collective bargaining—to increase the security of the family, and through such activities as summer camps for the children of members, Mrs. Jeffrey said that it was now equally interested in showing the need for the assumption of leadership by the federal government in the fight to halt the rising juvenile delinquency rate.

She said it was necessary to get action on the federal level to start a drive to pool resources of social agencies and lay citizens.

UNION'S RESPONSIBILITY

"We believe we have a moral responsibility to do our part in helping create a social atmosphere in which our children can grow up as healthy, well-adjusted human beings, with a sense of their own dignity, of their social competence, and with positive attitudes toward their responsibilities as citizens," Mrs. Jeffrey declared.

She said the last UAW-CIO Convention had adopted a resolution supporting the philosophy expressed in the bills introduced by Senators Estes Kefauver (D., Tenn.) and Alexander Wiley (R., Wis.).

She said the UAW-CIO favored the bills because 1) they recognize the need for a partnership between the federal government and state and local governments in dealing with the delinquency problem; 2) they recognize the necessity of close working relations between public and private agencies; 3) they stress planning, coordination, training and research; and 4) they encourage the employment of trained personnel in treatment services.

Mrs. Jeffrey, however, criticized the smallness of the amounts to be granted to the states, and the temporary nature of these grants.

New Umpire

HARRY H. PLATT, prominent Detroit attorney, has been appointed umpire between the Ford Motor Company and the UAW-CIO. He succeeds the late Dr. Harry Shulman. Platt has settled more than 1,000 labor-management disputes in auto, steel, oil, transit and other industries and has been one of three part-time associate umpires under the UAW-Ford contract since 1950.

THEY STAY PUT

Skilled workers show strong attachment to their skill speciality. They very seldom transfer to other fields of work, according to recent studies by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Chrysler Locals OK Strike 96%

BULLETIN—With the tally complete, Chrysler and Chrysler Automotive Body Department workers have voted more than 96 per cent in favor of striking if necessary to win their demands, it was announced jointly by UAW Vice-President Norman Matthews, director of the Chrysler Department, and Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey, director of the Chrysler ABD Department.

The results showed that office workers and engineers joined with other workers in presenting a solid front against Chrysler's efforts to chisel on the pattern and weaken the working agreement.

Members of the Union's bargaining team pointed out that the results give them an even more substantial position at the bargaining table. Chrysler has until the contract expires at midnight on August 31 to decide whether it wants to apply the "Forward Look" it boasts about in its cars to its industrial relations policies. (See story on page three.)

UAW-CIO Winner And Still Champion

CAMBRIDGE, Ohio—The UAW-CIO still represents workers at every Champion Spark Plug plant. Workers at the new plant here this month voted overwhelmingly in favor of the UAW in an NLRB election.

It was a hotly-contested election with the key issues being whether part of Champion Plug would be made under substandard non-union working conditions. The results showed that the campaign against the UAW misfired.

GAW Now Is Just 'Normal Progress'

WASHINGTON (PAI)—Some bitter things were said by some when the UAW-CIO established the principle of the Guaranteed Annual Wage in negotiations with Ford and General Motors.

But listen to the view expressed now by Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell:

"The UAW-Ford contract is a natural result of the free system of collective bargaining. . . . I do not regard it as a revolution. . . . I regard it as a normal progress of a dynamic society looking toward the improvement of wages and working conditions in this country."

7,000 Senior Citizens Throng to UAW Picnic

A chance to talk over battles they had helped their Union win, to hear a report from Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey on new battles ahead, plus games, refreshments and buzz sessions with old pals drew more than 7,000 UAW-CIO veterans to the annual Retired Workers' Picnic last month at Belle Isle in Detroit.

Among them were Robert McRitchie, a senior citizen of Local 900. He retired nine years ago and at 84 was the oldest man on hand. Otto H. Peans, 68, who retired two years ago after 22 years at Ford, came all the way from Tarpon Springs, Florida. The senior lady there was Mrs. Ernestine Krajewski, Local 7. She's 95 years young.

'GOOD' OLD DAYS

They knew what Mazey was talking about when he reminded them, "In the early thirties before we organized our Union, when a worker reached 40, chances were that he'd be laid off at the change of a model and the company would forget to call him back. We had no job security—the employer had no obligation to call the worker back because we had no Union, no contract."

Mazey recalled that 20 years ago, on August 26, 1935, the UAW was chartered by the AFL.

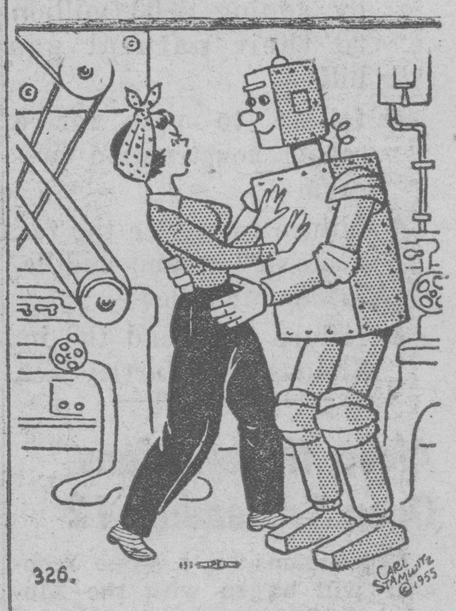
"Our first contracts nailed down grievance procedure and seniority provisions. And then we built on those first contracts," he said. "We improved wages; we improved working conditions in the shop. We won vacation with pay and medical insurance programs and later we took a step to win pensions for men and women when they reached the age where they could no longer maintain the grind and the pace inside the shop."

Today there are almost 50,000 retired UAW-CIO members, he reported. In 1949, prior to the first UAW-negotiated pension, the maximum social security in our country was $45 a month at 65 or older. The average social security benefits for auto workers was $32 a month. The first UAW pension, including social security, assured workers with 30 years of service $100 a month.

NOW $250 PENSIONS

"Before the first program was one year old we were able to improve its benefits to $125. Then to $137.50. Today, it is possible for a worker and his wife to draw a pension and social security amounting to $250 a month," Mazey reported.

"We have made great social progress . . . but there is still a great deal of work to be done," he warned. "Until everyone is guaranteed a chance for a decent standard of living, has a decent home, is guaranteed educational opportunities, our job is not complete."



"Cut it out, Buster! There's some ways in which automation will never replace the man!"

PAID JURY LEAVE

Provisions for paid jury leave were found in nearly a fifth of the 1,730 collective bargaining agreements recently studied by the Labor Department.