

# The United Automobile Worker

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

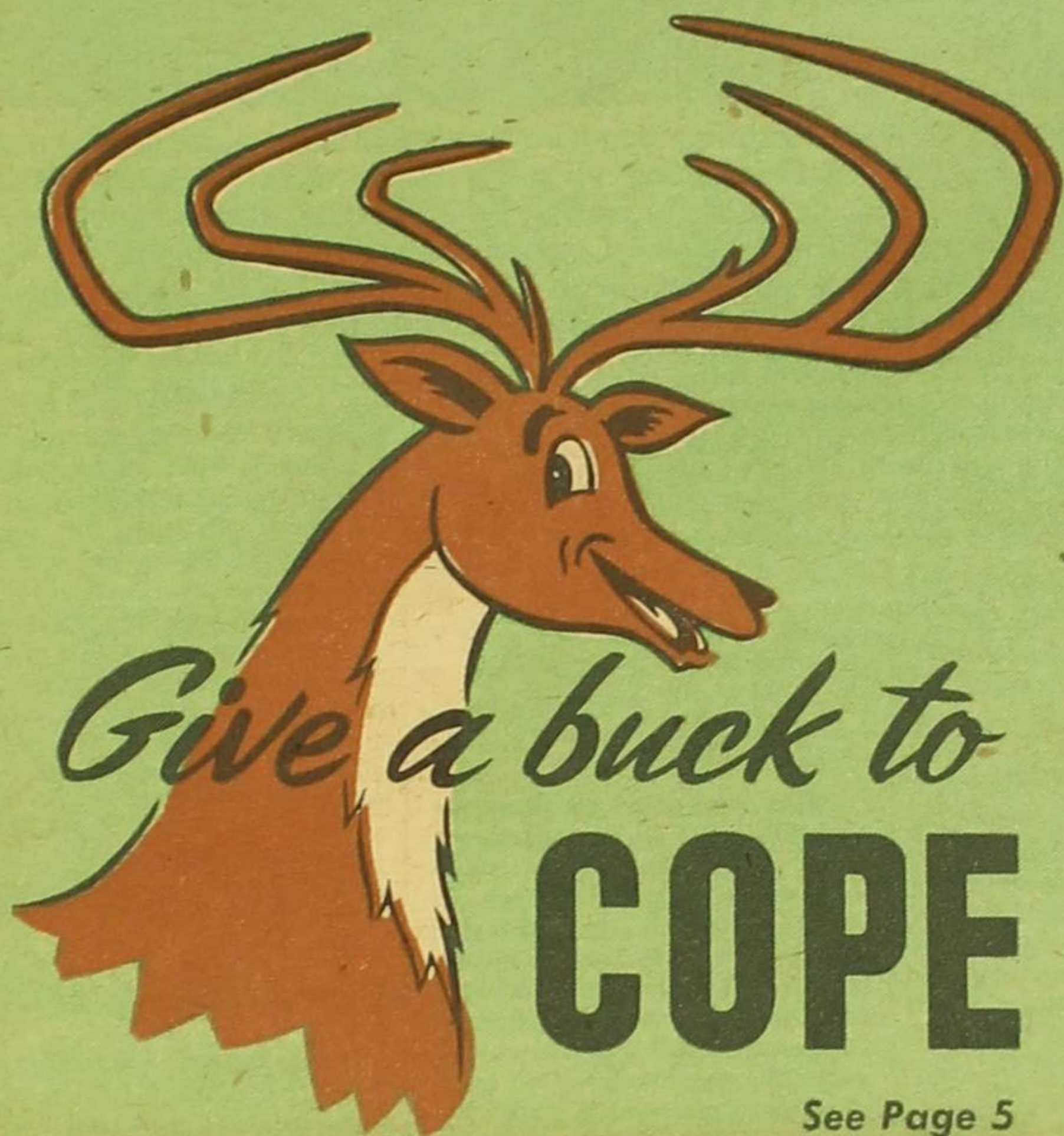
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See Page 5

## 100,000 Idle; Auto Industry Slump Still On

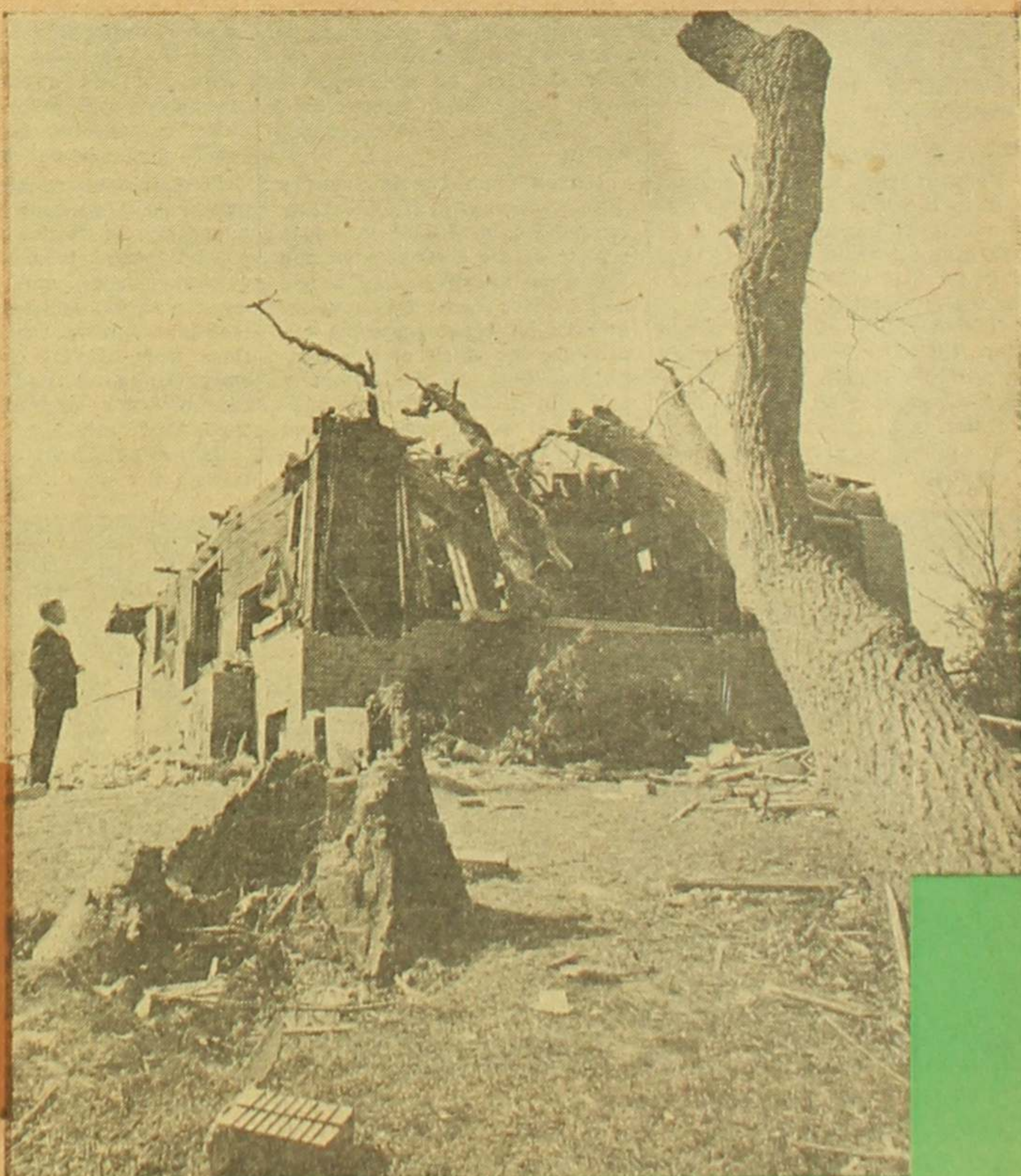
See Page 3

## UAW Sets Precedents In New Aircraft Pacts

See Page 2

## TORNADO STRIKES UAW COMMUNITIES

See Pages Six and Seven



# Wage Study Plan Won at NAA; Pensions at Douglas

## New UAW Aircraft Pacts Ratified by Local Unions

UAW negotiations with employers in the aircraft industry, rounding out the bargaining series which opened last spring at Ford and GM, have resulted in precedent-setting new contracts covering some 35,000 workers at North American Aviation and 28,000 at Douglas Aircraft, as well as about 10,000 other UAW aircraft workers at Chance-Vought and Sikorsky.

Vice-President Leonard Woodcock, director of the UAW Aircraft Department, pointed to the coordination of effort between the UAW and the International Association of Machinists (IAM) at both international and local levels since last autumn as a key factor in the successful negotiations at North American and Douglas.

### MEET UAW STANDARDS

The most tangible evidence of what such cooperation can accomplish, he said, can be found in the new pension agreement at Douglas in both UAW and IAM jurisdiction. It meets the basic UAW pension principles, non-contributory, funded, and jointly administered by the Union and the Company.

The UAW Social Security Department, working closely with the Aircraft Department, assisted, not only in the UAW talks, but in the IAM negotiations for IAM-organized Douglas plants at El Segundo and Santa Monica, California; the Lockheed plant in Burbank, California, and Convair at San Diego, California.

Roy Brown, IAM regional vice-president, termed the cooperation "extremely valuable and beneficial." Woodcock cited the continuous consultation between IAM and UAW bargaining committees in advance and during negotiations as having laid the foundation for even greater joint action in the next round of contract talks in the industry.

The 1956 negotiations also saw the first joint bargaining by all three Douglas UAW Local Unions (148, Long Beach; 1093, Tulsa, and 1291, Tucson) with Douglas Aircraft Company. For the first time all three Locals had representatives at all sessions with management.

### FIRST BREAK-THROUGH

Perhaps the most important gain in the 1956 negotiations was the initial break-through at North American in the long UAW struggle to establish a substitute for the antiquated Southern California Airframe Industry Wage Plan (SCAD). North American agreed to establish a joint Wage Plan Committee to develop during the term of the contract a new and mutually satisfactory wage plan.

Here are details of the various settlements, all of which have been ratified by Local Unions:

### North American

**T**HE general wage increase ranged from seven cents to 15 cents an hour immediately with an automatic raise of six cents or three per cent, whichever is greater, effective March 4, 1957. The contract expires March 5, 1958.

The second shift premium was increased from eight cents to 12 cents an hour and workers are eligible for three weeks' vacation after 12 years' continuous service or 15 years' accumulated service. The automatic wage progression was improved to provide that at the point a worker is five cents to nine cents below the maximum rate, his last automatic increment will bring him to the maximum for his job. Instead of having to wait for the few odd pennies, as in the past, these pennies are added automatically to the final five-cent raise.

Twenty-one job classifications were adjusted upward from one to two labor grades and discussions will continue with regard to inequities in certain other job groups. A \$300 accident policy for workers and dependents was added at Company cost and certain improvements were made in hospital coverage.

While the joint Wage Plan Committee endeavors to work out a new wage plan, the new contract also sets up procedures to permit wage disputes concerning new jobs to be submitted to arbitration.

Union security is greatly strengthened with the Company agreeing to give each new hire a copy of the UAW contract, a Union membership application, and a letter signed by Company and Union representatives expressing the spirit of the relationship between the Company and the Union. The maintenance of membership clause continues but with no "escape period."



LEADERS of the UAW bargaining team in the North American Aviation negotiations are shown here after winding up negotiations on a precedent-setting three-year contract in California. Left to right: Paul Schrade, assistant to Region 6 Director Charles Bioletti; Vice-President Leonard Woodcock, director of the Aircraft Department; Jack Hurst, president of UAW Local 887, and Jack Conway, administrative assistant to UAW President Walter Reuther.

In addition, many contract changes were made to improve working conditions and strengthen workers' rights in the plant in the area of working hours, seniority, grievance procedure and arbitration.

Ratification votes at Local 887, Inglewood, California; Local 927, Columbus, Ohio, and Local 1151, Fresno, California, carried by over 90 per cent.

### Douglas Aircraft

**T**HE general wage increase averaged between 10 and 11 cents an hour, ranging from seven to 15 cents in the Production and Maintenance Unit and from seven to 17 cents in the Technical and Office Unit. An automatic seven cents an hour increase takes effect March 18, 1957, and the contract expires March 15, 1958.

Second shift premium is raised from eight to 12 cents an hour and three weeks' vacation is provided after 12 years of accumulated service, regardless of breaks in seniority. Automatic wage progression was improved so that odd pennies in the rate range are picked up upon entering the classification. The Cost-of-Living provision was revised at both North American and Douglas to provide a one-cent increase for each .5 rise in the BLS Index.

Contract changes also improved grievance procedure, established a permanent umpire system, improved lateral transfer and promotion clauses, and increased representation and seniority protection. Ten learner classifications and 18 "B" classifications were eliminated and 12 classifications were upgraded one to three labor grades.

Vice-President Woodcock termed the new Douglas pension

plan "in terms of normal retirement benefits, the best in the aircraft industry." On normal retirement at age 65, with 10 years' service, maximum 30 years' service, the benefit is \$1.75 to as high as \$4 a month, multiplied by years of service. Vesting for workers leaving the Company at age 40 or older with 10 years or more service is provided, giving them benefits at age 65 on a percentage formula.

"The economic package at Douglas," Woodcock commented, "exceeds in money value any settlement ever made in the aircraft industry. Unfortunately, due to the shortsightedness of the Douglas management in failing to make progress in the area of union security, disability pensions and job evaluation and wage plan study, the Company has not earned the good will of the workers which such an expenditure might be expected to achieve."

Worker dissatisfaction with the Company's failure to meet these needs of its employees was reflected in the ratification votes which carried by an average of only 65 per cent in Douglas, compared to the 90 per cent at NAA.

### Chance-Vought

**W**AGE increases ranged from six cents to 13 cents an hour in the two-year agreement covering 6,000 Chance-Vought workers. A six-cent automatic improvement factor increase is effective March 8, 1957. Other improvements were made in representation, seniority, and group insurance.

### Sikorsky

**I**MMEDIATE wage increases ranging from eight cents an hour to 14 cents an hour, averaging about 10 cents for all 4,000 Sikorsky workers are provided. Improvements in insurance coverage also were incorporated in the new agreement. An additional wage increase ranging from five cents to nine cents an hour becomes effective in March, 1957, with the contract expiring in February, 1958.

## UAW Contributes \$10,000 to IAM Republic Strikers

The UAW has donated \$10,000 to the IAM strikers at Republic Aviation Corporation, Long Island, New York, Vice-President Leonard Woodcock, director of the Union's National Aircraft Department, and Charles H. Kerrigan, director of UAW Region 9A, announced this month.

"Recent wage settlements in the aircraft industry, far exceeding the inadequate offer made by Republic Aviation to the International Association of Machinists, highlight the struggle of Republic workers for equity," they said.

"In view of these settlements, the refusal of Republic Aviation to meet the legitimate demands of its workers represents a challenge to the aircraft workers throughout the nation and to the unions which represent these workers."

## UAW Negotiates on Contract For New Allis-Chalmers Local

All UAW-Allis-Chalmers master agreement language, except the Union Shop, already is agreed to for the former UE Local at LaPorte, Indiana, which now is UAW Local 1319.

Negotiations are continuing between top executives of the A-C chain and a UAW team headed by Herschel Davis, administrative assistant to Vice-President Pat Greathouse, and Douglas Fraser, administrative assistant to President Walter Reuther. Fraser conducted the 1955 negotiations with Allis-Chalmers in West Allis, Wisconsin.

Andy Newhoff, Agricultural Implement Department representative, and Gene Snuffer, Region 3, are assisting the Local in working out a local seniority agreement. Clarence Barker, president of UAW Local 1316, Allis-Chalmers at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, reports that the NLRB has not yet moved to set an election date there. The former UE local already has voted to go UAW and is functioning as a UAW local.

Bert Foster, assistant director of the Allis-Chalmers Depart-

ment, has notified Allis-Chalmers locals that all arbitrable grievances arising out of the 1950-55 agreement have been cleared up and the Department now is working on new cases.

James Broshears, president of the A-C Council, reports the next A-C Council meeting is scheduled April 27-28 at West Allis, Wisconsin.

### Boston Site of Labor Meet

**BOSTON**—A college in the Boston area will be the site of the 6th Annual Labor Institute on Human Rights. The Institute is sponsored by Massachusetts State AFL and CIO organizations, the Boston CIO and the Massachusetts Committee to Combat Intolerance.



FOR THE first time representatives of all three UAW Local Unions in Douglas (148, Long Beach; 1093, Tulsa, and 1291, Tucson), bargained jointly with management. Shown here is part of the UAW team at Douglas. Seated (left to right): Jerry Bale, Local 148; Ernest West, Region 6; Irv Bluestone, administrative assistant to Vice-President Leonard Woodcock; Carl Stevens and Glen Beck, Region 5. Standing, l to r.: Larry Stachowski, Local 148; Vern Hodges, Local 1093; Ed Burrelson, Local 1093; Joe Cameliche, Local 1291; John Keck, Region 6; Oscar Cowart, Len Henderson, Dale Smith, Irene Rutledge, and Clarence Stinson, all Local 148.

# More Than 100,000 Idle In Auto Industry

Spring has arrived without the hoped-for spring surge in automobile and agricultural implement production.

Unemployment figures indicate that more than 100,000 workers are idled in the automobile industry. This includes both auto giants and supplier companies. Work is lacking for well over 10,000 in the Agricultural Implement industry.

In Detroit, 120,000 men and women, approximately eight per cent of the work force, are out of work. This is nearly

double the unemployment figure for the same time last year when 4.3 per cent of Detroit's workers were on the Michigan Employment Security Commission rolls.

A serious shortage of work exists for all of Michigan with 185,000 or 6.6 per cent of the work force unemployed. Heavy unemployment has hit many other areas. The Quad-Cities section of Iowa and Illinois, a concentration of farm equipment facilities, once again is feeling the job pinch although not to the degree it did two years ago. Evansville, Indiana, a Chrysler stronghold, has 12 per cent of its workers unemployed.

### CARS JAM LOTS

All over America dealers' lots are crammed with unsold new cars, evidence that there exists little chance of a real surge in production. The automobile industry admits to a 41-day supply of passenger cars and a 60-day supply of light trucks in the hands of dealers.

Ward's Automotive Reports indicate no improvement in the job situation for the second quarter of 1956. Largely because of a change in scheduling by General Motors, Ward predicts the output for the spring quarter will be 1.8 per cent below the output for the first quarter. This is almost 20 per cent below the output for the spring quarter a year ago, and the production for the entire first half of 1956 is expected to be almost 19 per cent below the first half of 1955.

At this time last year, automobile dealers had 640,000 cars on hand. In the process of getting customers for these cars, the auto industry increased the amount owed on cars by almost \$4 billion. Now, with almost 900,000 unsold cars on hand, there appears little chance to expand credit buying enough to absorb them.

More than \$14 billion is owed on the cars and trucks now on the nation's highways. That is more money than the United States government received in taxes in 1942. Thousands of would-be customers can't consider new cars

## Caterpillar Council Set Up; Temporary Officers Selected

The newest UAW Council is the Caterpillar Council, authorized recently by the International Executive Board and formed at a meeting called by Vice-President Pat Greathouse, director of the Agricultural Implement Department.

Ray Belcher, Local 974, Peoria, Illinois, was elected temporary chairman and Art Tomlinson, Local 786, York, Pennsylvania, temporary secretary, by delegates. Affiliates of the Council include all four Local Unions representing Caterpillar workers—Local 974, Peoria; Local 751, Decatur, Illinois; Local 786, York, and Local 710, Kansas City, Missouri.

Preliminary recommendations on a draft of by-laws for the new Council were approved and the draft will be presented to the next meeting, July 21-22 at York.

Vice-President Greathouse has assigned Morris Field, assistant director of the Agricultural Implement Department, to work with the new Council.

until they pay off more on the old jalopy.

### BIG 3 OFF 77,000

Automobile layoffs are hitting seniority workers in many sections of the nation. General Motors called back most of the 21,000 laid off the first five weeks of the year, then laid off 17,000 this month. Ford employment is down approximately 20,000. Chrysler's employment is down by almost 40,000. American Motors has 6,750 laid off and Packard-Studebaker is down more than 2,000.

Layoffs, shorter work weeks, and failure to replace workers leaving jobs for any reason mark much of the supplier industry.

### DIVERSIFICATION HELPS

The workers most affected in the farm implement industry continue to be those in companies concentrating on the manufacture of farm machinery. Many firms in the industry have diversified their manufacturing so that workers are kept busy on other lines.

International Harvester, one of the industry's king pins, has almost 1,500 workers laid off at press time, and its spokesmen indicated additional layoffs are expected soon. Oliver, almost exclusively farm implement, has closed down some of its facilities for weeks at a stretch, as has Minneapolis-Moline. Oliver still has 2,500 out of work, while Minneapolis-Moline is still undertaking only partial production.

John Deere, with a strike of 4,000 UAW members in three plants, has laid off another 2,500 workers. J. I. Case has 550 workers awaiting their call backs and at least 300 Allis-Chalmers workers are in the same situation.

Massey-Harris-Ferguson has laid off 500 in Toronto and also has some workers off in the U. S.

For tens of thousands of UAW members and their families, Administration claims of "prosperity" have a phony ring. Their job plights amount to at least the rumbling of recession.

## Greathouse Appoints Hughes as Assistant

Vice-President Pat Greathouse has announced the appointment of Marshall Hughes, former member of the Region 4 staff, as administrative assistant.

Hughes came to the Region 4 staff from UAW Local 1027, Allis-Chalmers in Springfield, Illinois.

Greathouse also has appointed Robert Brown, formerly of the Competitive Shop and Agricultural Implement staffs, as assistant director of the Borg-Warner Department.



"All I can say is: It's a good thing you have a union to assert your rights for you on the job!"



PART of the 2,900 tractors stored axle to axle in a field next to the Oliver plant in Charles City, Iowa, are shown in this photo taken by a "Labor's Daily" photographer. The man at right center is UAW Local 1315 Vice-President Gerald Fisher. Oliver reportedly has 11,000 tractors stockpiled.

## Treasury Approves Studebaker-Packard SUB Pact With UAW

The U. S. Treasury Department and the U. S. Department of Labor have given official approval to the Supplemental Unemployment Benefit Plan (SUB) negotiated between the UAW and the Studebaker-Packard Corporation, UAW Vice-President Norman Matthews announced.

"This means that the plan can go into effect as scheduled on September 1 of this year," Matthews said. He pointed out that Michigan and California have given favorable rulings so that S-P workers in these states face no further legal hurdles to SUB benefits.

"However, Indiana has not yet issued a favorable administrative ruling to permit integration," he said. "If the state fails to issue such a ruling, Studebaker workers in Indiana will have to wait until September 7, 1957, before the SUB will become effective for them."

Arkansas this month became the 13th state to approve integrating state and supplemental unemployment compensation benefits. No state has made an unfavorable decision.

## Unions Tabbed Real Target For White Citizens' Councils

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — A former governor of this southern state lashed out at those who seek to arouse anti-Negro feelings among white southerners as an attempt to destroy labor unions in the South and victimize consumers throughout the nation.

Ex-Governor Sidney S. McMath, in a speech to the state AFL-CIO merger convention, referred specifically to the so-called Federation for Constitutional Government and to the so-called White Citizens' Councils.

"They are," he said, "the same people who led the Dixiecrat movement in 1948. They were the Eisenhower Democrats in 1952. They are the leaders of the Citizens' Councils in 1956."

But their real concern, he said, is not the civil rights issue. That's a smoke screen behind which they hide their efforts to depress wages and working conditions and to keep enough votes in Congress, Democrats and Republicans, to do the bidding of the notorious oil and gas lobby.

"They concentrate on getting union members signed up in Citi-

## UAW, American Motors Okay One-Stop SUB Interview Plan

The UAW and American Motors have agreed in principle on a pilot "one stop" procedure qualifying for both state unemployment and supplemental (SUB) benefits.

If all technicalities are cleared away, state agencies will forward to the Company the information necessary to processing supplemental benefits.

The agreement on the prin-

ciple was announced jointly by UAW Vice-President Norman Matthews and Edward Cushman, American Motors industrial relations director.

The UAW and American Motors are attempting to make the necessary arrangements with the state unemployment compensation agencies involved and with the Bureau of Employment Security in Washington.

Matthews and Cushman pointed out, "We are desirous of developing the simplest possible procedures consistent with sound administration of the plan. In particular, we want to minimize administrative costs and to provide prompt payment of benefits. "It would be costly and wasteful for the Company to duplicate the interviews conducted by the state agencies. It would also be a needless inconvenience and expense to the worker if he were required to report at two locations to answer the same questions."

## Tag Day Finances UAW-Sponsored Teen-Age Dances

CANTON, Illinois—UAW Women's Auxiliary 338 recently sponsored a "juke box" dance for more than 100 teen-agers. The Auxiliary plans to sponsor more of these dances because local teen-agers have no place of their own for such activities.

To finance this project, the UAW ladies obtained permission from the City Council to run a "tag day" in Canton. The first "tag day" held last month netted enough to make the purchase of a record player and records possible.

## Nat King Cole Gets Cheers From 3,500 After Stage Attack

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama — Thirty-five hundred white Alabamans stood and cheered Nat King Cole, Negro musician, to repudiate the actions of a handful of white vigilantes who attacked him on the stage of a theater here.

One of his attackers who was apprehended and arrested was identified as chairman of a so-called White Citizens Council in a nearby community. Six men in all interrupted Cole's performance by climbing upon the stage and knocking him down. They were seized by police.

The white audience showed what they thought of the racist attitudes of the attackers and their lawlessness by standing up and cheering Cole for 15 minutes when he returned to the stage after the assault.

In recent months Alabama has become an outstanding symbol, even in the South, of race prejudice and mob violence and a disgrace and embarrassment to American democracy.

It would appear from the reaction of this white audience to the attack on Cole that if there are any public officials in Alabama with the will and the courage to uphold the law, they would get the support of a law abiding but usually silent majority.

Before the union member knows what is happening to him, he is passing resolutions withdrawing from his International on the ground that they permit Negro membership; then he starts circulating petitions to organize an all-white union.

"When this union member cools off," the former governor emphasized, "he finds that he has destroyed the union that has protected his rights and has given his family and himself a decent standard of living."

More than 500 people paid \$3 a plate at the dinner at which Governor McMath spoke. Just across town, on the same night, less than 100 people turned out for a "White America" meeting, which was free.

# 20th Anniversary Observance Kickoff Set June 3

The Union launched by that hardy band of pioneers in South Bend the last week in April and the first week in May, 1936, is busy this month planning its Twentieth Anniversary celebration.

The official celebration will be kicked off June 3, in South Bend, site of the founding convention, and will be continued throughout the rest of the year.

As a prelude to the formal celebration, the Biennial International UAW Education Conference, being held in Washington this month, will be a Twentieth Anniversary event.

Governor G. Mennen Williams has proclaimed June 4-10 as UAW Week in Michigan and the governors of other states and mayors of cities where there are concentrations of UAW members

are preparing similar proclamations for other dates during the year.

Regional Directors and Local Union officers in various localities are getting their plans underway for their local celebrations.

The June issues of *The United Automobile Worker* and *Ammunition* will be special Twentieth Anniversary editions and will depict in text and pictures the story of the Union's twenty-year history.

A special edition of the book, "Labor on the March," by the late Edward Levinson, which is regarded as the most thorough and authentic history of the beginnings of the CIO, will be released this month at the time of the Education Conference.

Brother Levinson, known to thousands of UAW members, was UAW public relations director and editor of *The United Automobile Worker* from 1939 until his death in 1945.

Mass meetings, banquets, pageants and entertainments are all being planned for the celebration. The different events will touch on all aspects—collective bargaining gains, community activities, the fight for civil rights and civil liberties, the total fight for a world of peace, prosperity and human brotherhood—of the program of the men, women and children who make up the great family of the UAW and who dared to build their dreams into reality.

Watch for the dates of special events and celebrations in your own locality.



## From Clock Number to Human Dignity . . . That's the Story of UAW

TWENTY years ago this month, a handful of auto workers met in South Bend, Indiana, and formed a Union—the UAW.

They represented, by most optimistic estimates, 25,000 workers. They elected officers, voted to affiliate with the Committee for Industrial Organization, and planned to organize the automobile industry, one of the major bastions of anti-unionism in the U. S.

They came, for the most part, from a few outlying, isolated

plants. The few delegates from the giant corporations represented so few that the management felt secure in scoffing at their ambitions for a union. During the convention, they lived on hamburgers and bunked five and six to a room.

Then the average hourly rate was 72 cents. There was no job security; no guarantee you would get your job back when laid off; no pensions. The speed-up exhausted workers. At 40, it was difficult to get rehired. Beyond

40, the chances of going back after a layoff were non-existent, unless there was a great demand for labor. In the mid-thirties there was little demand.

About the only guarantee of being rehired was to curry favor with your foreman with presents or services or a kick-back. Workers feared to talk about the possibility of a union.

Labor espionage was so tough that the exercise of free speech could mean firing and often meant physical violence.

Negro workers got the lowest-paid, dirtiest, hardest jobs—if they got a job at all—and had no chance of promotion.

Workers were not treated as human beings, but as clock-card numbers, discarded when management thought they were beginning to wear out.

Today the average hourly rate for a UAW member is about \$2.20 with premium pay for overtime. Since 1937, workers have had seniority, insur-

ing re-employment. Beginning this June, most UAW members will have assurance of up to 65 per cent of their weekly wage, when laid off, for a period of up to 26 weeks. The speed of work is a matter to be determined by negotiations between the representatives of the workers on a job and the management of their plant.

The UAW member and family today is covered by hospitalization and surgical insurance, by sickness and accident benefits, and by a life insurance policy ranging from \$3,200 to \$7,500. Most of the costs are borne by the employer.

On retirement, workers have a company-paid pension which, combined with social security for a man and wife ranges up to \$240 a month. Almost 50,000 retired UAW members enjoy such pensions today.

A Negro, or member of any minority group, has equal rights in the plant and as a union member—can count on the UAW to

fight for civil rights and civil liberties throughout the nation.

The less than 25,000 members, represented by the delegates at South Bend in 1936, have become today a union of 1,500,000 members. The Union has resources of more than \$40 million, including a strike fund for emergencies of more than \$27½ million.

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

He has won for himself, though his union, the status of a human being and the confidence and independence and innate dignity that that status provides in a modern democracy.

### Skilled Apprentices Vote to Join UAW

**WATERBURY, Connecticut**—A unit of 108 skilled trades apprentices at the Scovill Manufacturing Company plant here voted for the UAW in a representation election, it was announced by UAW Vice-President Richard Gosser, director of the Union's Skilled Trades Department.

The Scovill apprentices voted 64 to 42 for the UAW with two failing to vote. Last year, the same group turned down the Union by a 98 to 12 vote. Now they will be members of Local 1604 which already represents more than 3,700 Scovill skilled and production workers.

Participating in the drive which preceded the Scovill election were members of Region 9A Director Charles Kerrigan's staff.

### Five Local Foundries Win Pension Vesting, Skilled Recognition

**CLEVELAND, Ohio**—Two "firsts" for this city were won in a recently-negotiated two-year agreement with five major foundries, whose workers are members of UAW Local 1260, it was reported by Region 2 Director Patrick J. O'Malley.

Pensions with complete vesting after 10 years were obtained for the first time in any jobbing foundry here. The other was full recognition for skilled trades. Other gains included wage increases for production workers of 6 cents plus 6 cents next year, skilled trades increase of 11 cents plus 9 cents next year, complete hospitalization and medical care, group insurance, sick and accident benefits of \$35 per week for 26 weeks and a cost-of-living escalator.

The new agreement covers workers at Crucible Steel Casting, Hill Acme Company, City Foundry Division of Cleveland Punch and Shear, Cuyahoga Foundry and Fulton Foundry.

### Flood Gifts Top \$150,000

**SAN FRANCISCO (PAI)**—AFL-CIO contributions to the California flood relief victims has gone over the \$150,000 mark.

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Everything is . . .  
as it was then . . .

## AND YOU ARE THERE

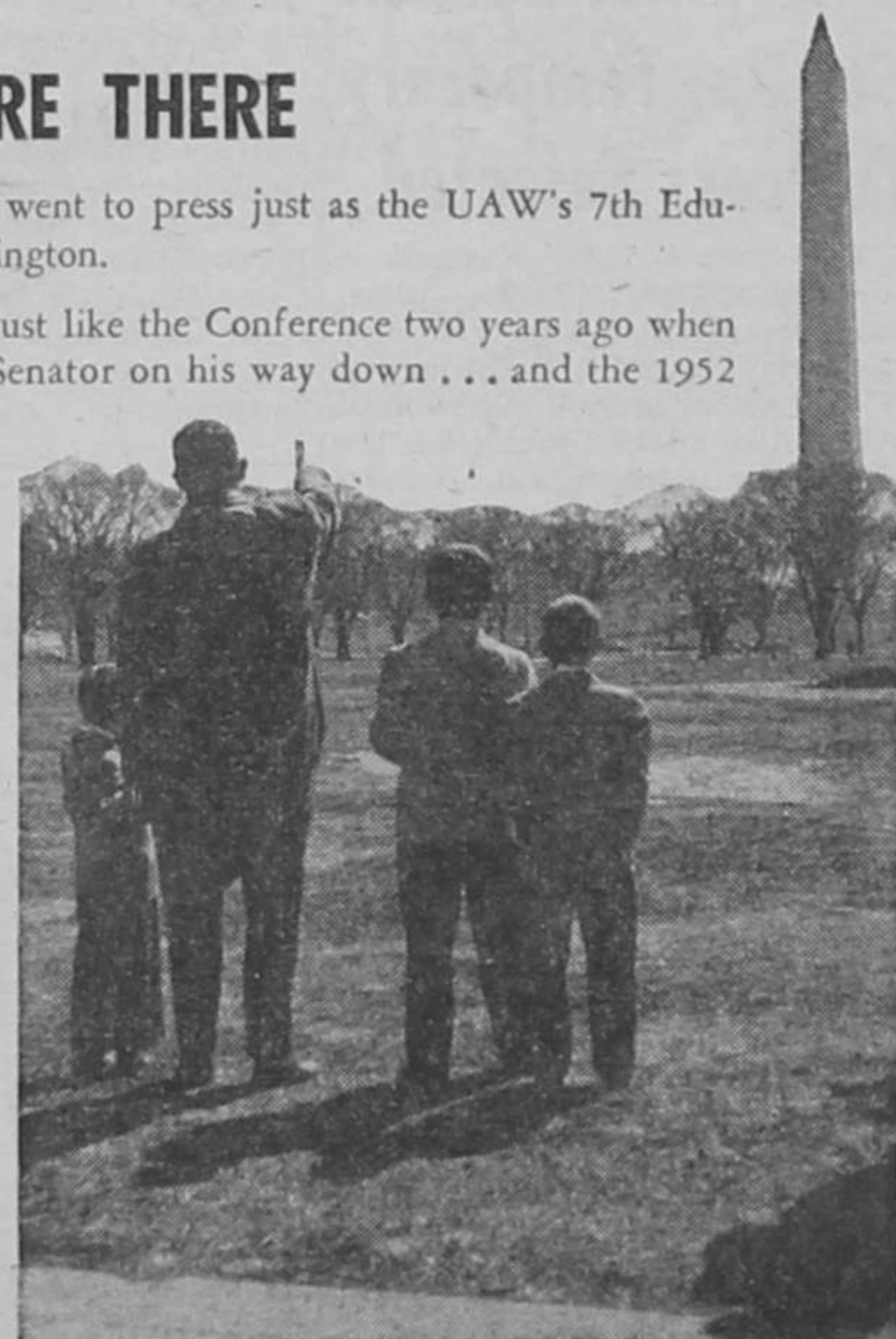
THIS issue of *The United Automobile Worker* went to press just as the UAW's 7th Education Conference was about to open in Washington.

The Conference was sure to be a historic event just like the Conference two years ago when Bishop Sheil blasted McCarthy and started that Senator on his way down . . . and the 1952 Education Conference when Senator Morse first indicated his switch from the Republican Party to the Democratic.

Since everybody can't attend the Conference and watch history being made, we'll try to recreate the whole event in the next issue both in pictures and in news.

Watch for it! You'll be there at the . . .

## 7th UAW Education Conference



Toledo UAW Member Wins

'A Dollar a Member, Will Help in November' -That's Slogan Picked for '56 COPE Drive

The UAW's election year buck drive to provide funds for political action went into high gear in several regions this month. Some local unions have already over-subscribed their quota.

Sparkling these drives was the UAW's Political Action Department's nationwide slogan contest. The winning slogan is being used in the buck drive.

OVER 5,000 ENTRIES

The contest, which had been announced in the February issue of The United Automobile Worker and over the Union's "Eye Opener" national radio network, brought more than 5,000 entries within two weeks.

Winners were announced earlier this month by Roy Reuther, UAW Political Action Co-ordinator.

First prize of a \$200 government savings bond went to Vincent Ringler of Toledo, a member of the Auto-Lite Unit of Local 12. The winning slogan is, "A dollar a member will help in November."

Second prize of a \$100 bond went to Art Conway of Highland Park, Michigan, a member of Local 490, for the slogan, "Your dollar donation means good legislation."

Third prize, a \$50 bond, went to Bill Biro of Maple Heights, Ohio, a member of Local 363, for "Don't trust to luck; invest a buck."

OTHER WINNERS

Six other winners received \$25 bonds. Peter A. Petrulo, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Local 1036; John Seubert, Baltimore, Local 738; Frederic T. Neumann, Lansing, Michigan; Mitchell Stein, Madeira, Ohio; Edward W. Santos, Saginaw, Michigan. and Boris Ourlicht, Detroit.

The drive for voluntary dollar donations from UAW members

Political Action Pays Off; Elects 3 to School Board

CHARLES CITY, Iowa—The members of UAW Local 1315, Oliver Corporation, proved that it just takes a little political action to win a municipal election. They elected three officers—John Ingram, education and political action director; William Nott, recording secretary; and Clement Kilby, financial secretary—as school board members and treasurer, respectively.

But, it took a late afternoon write-in vote to whip the three incumbents, and replace them with the progressive Union trio who are pledged to "an honest and devoted effort to provide the best possible educational facilities that available funds will allow."

was kicked off earlier this month in Regions 2, 2A, 3, 4, 5, 8, and 10. In Regions 2B, 9, 9A, 6 and all of the Michigan regions, the drive will be started within the next few weeks.

OVER TOP IN WISCONSIN

Region 10 Director Harvey Kitzman reported that two locals in his area have already filled their quota by subscribing 100 per cent, a buck from each member. They are Local 37, Racine, Wisconsin, and Local 336, Milwaukee.

Region 3 Director Ray Berndt reported that Local 370, New Castle, Indiana, oversubscribed its quota by 155 per cent. This is one of the Perfect Circle locals which fought a bitter strike

last year. Obviously, the membership's first-hand experience with reactionary public officials gave it the incentive for this achievement.

As most UAW members will remember, Local 370 pickets were shot at by armed scabs inside the plant. Several strikers were wounded. City officials (since defeated) joined with some state officials (now up for re-election) to help the Company's strike-breaking efforts.

Commented Berndt: "Those shots did more than startle Perfect Circle workers. They aroused the entire membership of this Region to the need for more political action. Those shots will be echoing during all of the COPE buck drive and the election to follow."

Berndt also reported the following percentages: Local 752, Louisville, Kentucky, 100 per cent; Local 1201, Hammond, Indiana, 104 per cent; and Local 461, Indianapolis, 110 per cent.

DRIVE GATHERS SPEED

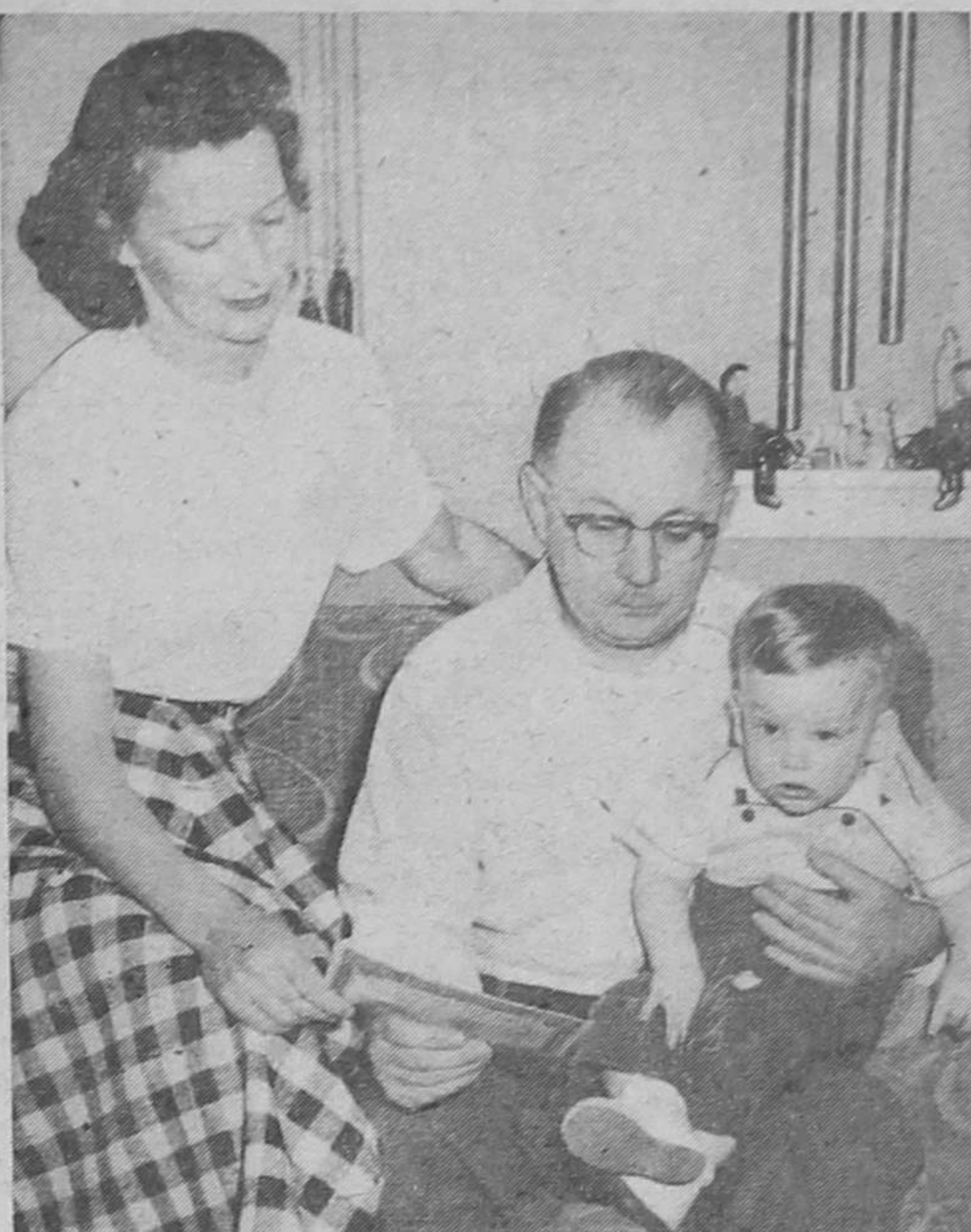
Region 2 Director Pat O'Malley and International Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey stressed the need for increased political activity and for voluntary dollar donations at a regional conference in New Castle, Pennsylvania, attended by some 225 delegates.

Mazey said a big job must be done this year to ensure future progress and protect the gains made over the years by organized labor. These gains must be protected from the Big Business Administration now in the saddle in Washington and many of the state capitals, he said.

More than 3 million workers are jobless, Mazey pointed out, and he reminded the delegates that any gains for the workers have been made through their unions and not through the Eisenhower Administration.

'Buck-for-Morse' Drive

PORTLAND, Oregon (PAI)—The Portland Central Labor Council has launched a "Buck-for-Morse" campaign in behalf of Senator Wayne Morse who is up for re-election this year. Former Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay is running in the Republican primary with President Eisenhower's approval as a direct challenge to the Oregon Democrat.



"A DOLLAR A MEMBER WILL HELP IN NOVEMBER" won the UAW's political action slogan contest for UAW steward Vincent "Benny" Ringler, also a member of Toledo Local 12's executive board from Auto-Lite. Shown here as they look over the \$200 Savings Bond prize are (l. to r.) his wife, Louella, Ringler, and son, Joel. The bond will be salted away for a nest egg for Victor, 14 (not shown), and Joel.

So-Called 'Clean Election' Bill Just Dirty Trick on Voters

WASHINGTON—Delegates to the UAW Education Conference here are expected to raise a lot of questions about the Johnson-Knowland "clean elections" bill which is dirtying up the political debate.

The old problem of ethics and the undue influence of money in campaigning became a matter of immediate concern because of the sensational exposures during the debate over the Gas Bill.

BILL A PHONY

The Johnson-Knowland Bill, bearing the names of the ranking Senators of both parties, is a result of the public pressure for reform. The Bill is a fake. It would not stop any of the evils which have aroused the public.

It would permit big money interests to make even bigger campaign contributions. The bill would place no effective ceiling on campaign spending. It would provide no adequate check on the source of political contributions.

The Bill would limit the political activities of interested citizens' committees, especially in primary elections, while giving individuals with influence money to spread about with almost a free hand.

UAW President Walter P. Reuther called attention to weaknesses in the Johnson-Knowland Bill this month in a letter to Congress.

REUTHER URGES ACTION

"Political effectiveness in elections is exerted both with ballots and with money," Reuther asserted. "If the democratic principle of one citizen, one vote is not to be subverted, action must be taken to eliminate the plural voting power exercised through large contributions by a few high income individuals."

Reuther pointed out that although the sponsors of the Bill claim it is aimed at promoting "clean elections," the Bill "would

actually allow virtually unlimited political contributions. It would permit every member of a family to make four \$2,500 contributions of the Neff type (see story at lower left) instead of the two that Neff attempted to place in South Dakota and Nebraska."

The Bill allows contributions totalling up to \$10,000 in any calendar year. If a man with a bushel of bucks wanted to contribute more, he could contribute \$10,000 for his wife and for each of their children . . . every year.

A \$100 income tax deduction would be permitted for political contributions. The ordinary worker could get a theoretical tax deduction of \$20 for a \$100 political contribution . . . a very rich man might get a tax deduction of as much as \$91 for his \$100 contribution.

PRIMARY FOR PLOTTERS

Moreover, the bill does not put any limit on the expenditures in primaries and conventions. Especially in those states where success in the primaries or party conventions is almost the same as being elected, the influence peddlers, the big money crowd would be in good position to control the selection of candidates.

While individuals and political parties could make expenditures for candidates without the candidate's knowledge or consent, citizens' committees and other interested groups . . . like labor unions . . . would be prohibited from backing candidates financially unless they received written permission from the candidate.

Reuther urged a public hearing on the Bill or that Senators offer amendments to actually get at the evils which the "clean elections" Bill is supposed to counter.

The next line of defense is the House of Representatives. Education Conference delegates were to meet the Representatives at breakfast this month.

One Gas Probe Ends -Other Gets Ready

WASHINGTON—One of two Senate committees formed to "investigate" the gas bribe scandal performed its function this month while the other got ready to ease into action.

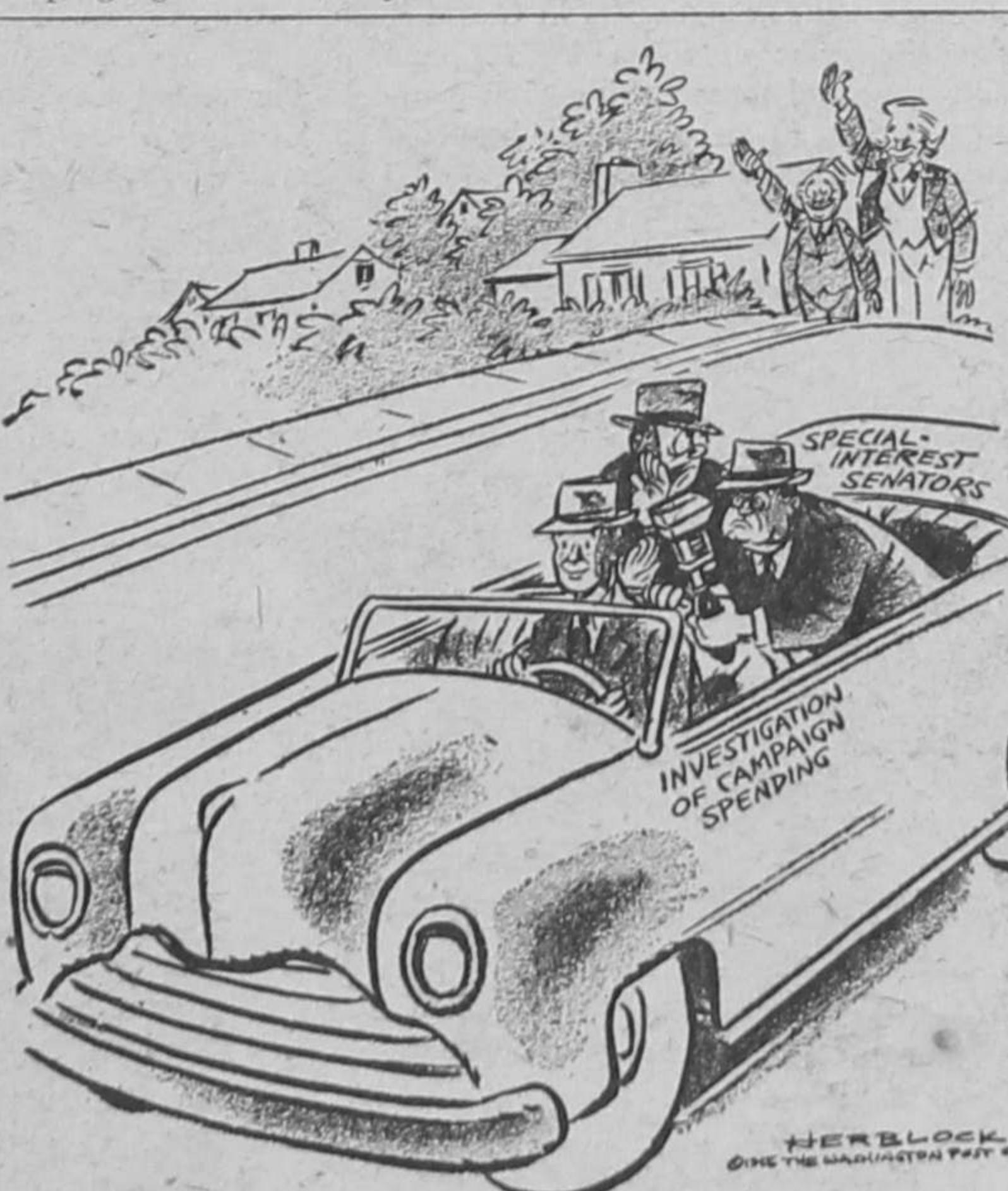
The special four-man committee looking into activities of gas lobbyists called the \$2,500 campaign gifts offered by John M. Neff and Elmer Patman, attorneys for the Superior Oil Company, "irresponsibility run riot."

The attorneys were "severely censured" for their failure to act as responsible citizens. Their boss, Howard B. Keck, president of the big oil and gas company, was criticized for "remarkable laxity" in supervising their activities. (He put up the money they offered.)

Senator Francis Case (R., South Dakota), whose revelation that he had been offered a \$2,500 gift in connection with the Gas Bill vote, was not praised for making the matter public.

After blistering the two attorneys with Senate rhetoric and suggesting that some laws may have been broken, the Senators concluded that no actual bribe attempt had been made. They passed the buck to the Justice Department, urging that Department to look into "any other possible violations of federal statutes."

The larger committee which is expected to make a more complete investigation may get into action within the next month. Insiders here suspect the activities of the oil-gas lobby will get less attention than the efforts by citizen and consumer groups to defeat the gas steal.



"Wait a Minute - They're Still Watching"

# April Tornado But Not



THE SAD JOB OF TRYING to salvage a few odds and ends, all that is left of their earthly belongings, falls to Harry and Shirley Van Der Wal, of Hudsonville, Michigan. This shambles was once their home. Harry is a member of UAW Local 356.

GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan—"It sounded like 15 freight trains running over our heads."

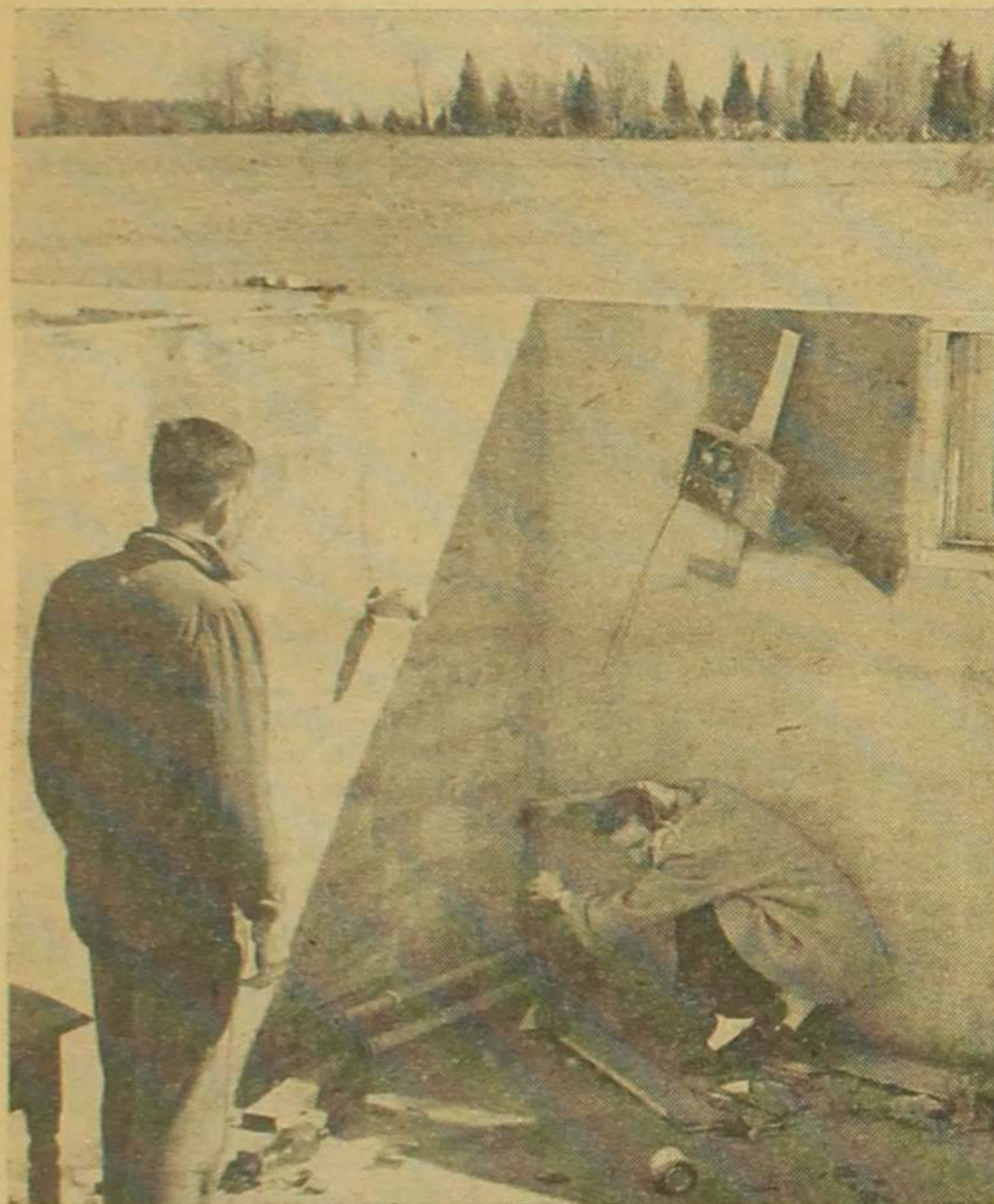
That's how Shirley Van Der Wal, wife of a UAW member, described the tornado which destroyed her home earlier this month. The twister, which struck many parts of the Midwest, hit the Western Michigan area hardest, killing 18, wounding more than 300, and causing \$11 million property damage. Nearly 800 homes and stores were destroyed. Many of the victims were UAW members, and their Union was quick to come to their aid.

Shirley and her two children, Terry, 9, and Mike, 7, were at home in their six-room frame house in rural Hudsonville, a Grand Rapids suburb. Her husband, Harry, a member of UAW Local 356, was at the Jervis Company plant, where he works the second shift as a metal polisher.

"It must have been around 7:30 at night," Shirley said, "when I heard this terrible noise. I looked out the window and saw it coming, so I grabbed my kids and our dog, Bubbles, and took them down into the basement.

"I made them huddle in the only corner that was empty, and threw myself on top of them. Then I watched the tornado through the basement window

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SHIRLEY VAN DER WAL shows her husband Harry, who was at work when the tornado struck, how she and their two boys crouched in the corner of the basement to protect themselves from the twister. The basement is all that remained of their home.



VOLUNTEER WORKERS like these worked day and night sorting the mountain of donated clothing which had been brought to Grand Rapids' CIO Hall. Left to right, Jane Shafer, an office worker in the Hall; Ken Robinson, director of UAW Region 1D, with headquarters in Grand Rapids; Andy Brown of Detroit, assistant director of the UAW's Community Services Department; Mrs. Robinson; and three visiting French trade unionists and auto workers who pitched right in to help, in the best tradition of the free world labor movement: Andre Mielle, Paul Tyrant and Gaston Aschour.



MICHAEL VAN DER WAL, 8, his brother Terry, 9, and their parents are happy to pick up some good used clothes donated by fellow union members. Scene is in front of Grand Rapids' CIO Hall.



HUNDREDS OF HOMES and cars in the Grand Rapids area and elsewhere in the Midwest looked like this after the tornado struck. Many of the victims lost belongings covered only partially, or not at all, by insurance.



NOT ONLY the w  
nado victims tell the stor



REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
by two UAW member  
dens: Carrol Davis (lea  
of Local 257.

# Flattens Homes Union Spirit

sounded like 15 freight trains  
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... lasted two or three minutes,"  
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... also I told the boys to stay put and  
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... most of his fellow workers, rushed  
... safety of his family. When he got  
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... up by a neighbor and taken to  
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... were safe and sound.  
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... furniture, the appliances, the house-  
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...  
... Wals were lucky . . . luckier than  
... member of UAW Local 730 and a  
... Hudsonville. DeKlein's wife, his  
... sister Yvonne, and his mother-in-  
... man Dyke, were all killed by the

Another hard-hit member was Joseph King of Local 330, a resident of suburban Comstock Park. His Local had been on strike against Lear, Inc., for 103 days. He had been back at work for only about two months when the tornado flattened his house and destroyed all his belongings. King says he is only partly insured.

The UAW and the Kent County CIO Council lost no time in setting up machinery to aid the disaster victims, making no distinction between union and non-union members. Martha Reynolds, local AFL-CIO Community Services representative, was named liaison officer to coordinate Union and Red Cross activities. The Grand Rapids CIO Hall's big basement gym became the principal depot for used clothing donated by area residents for the tornado victims.

UAW members who belong to the Civil Defense organization took leave from their regular jobs to help regulate traffic, man road blocks in the devastated areas, aid State Police and National Guardsmen and do other unpaid, volunteer work, with no thought to the loss of their regular pay check. Others volunteered their spare time to do clean-up work, removing rubble and debris from roads and homes.

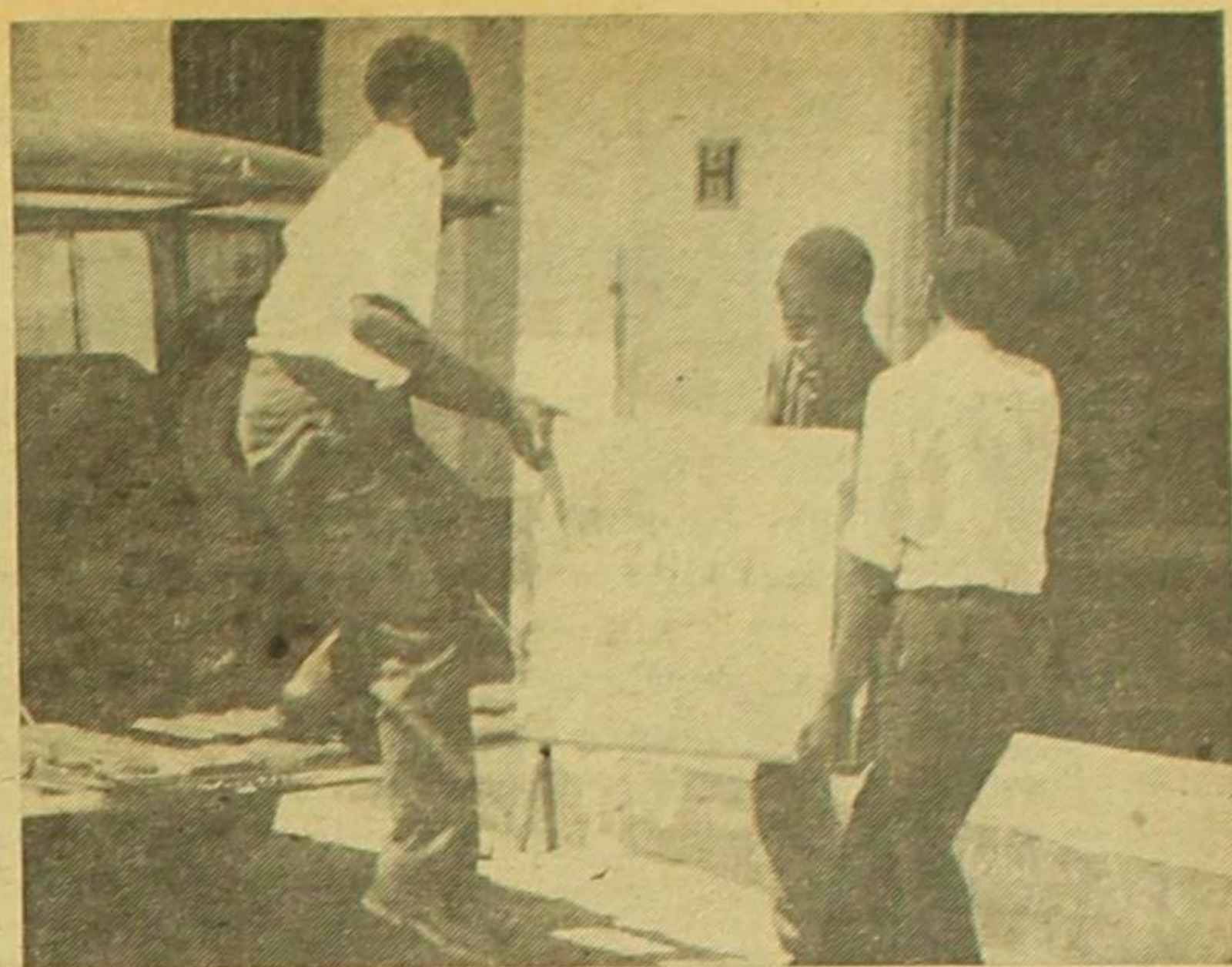
**J. G. Van Der Myde, president of UAW Local 1231, said his membership turned out en masse to help sort the donated clothing at the CIO Hall. President Paul Kiel of Doehler-Jarvis Local 257 reported he collected \$1,500 at a meeting of his Local to help local members hit by the disaster.**

Ken Robinson, director of UAW Region 1D, Andy Brown, assistant director of the UAW's Community Services Department, and International Representatives Florence Peterson, Ray Powell and Jacob Webber of the regional staff toured the disaster areas to determine how much and what kind of help was needed by the victims.

How little some of the victims thought of themselves only hours after the catastrophe is illustrated by a telephone conversation reported by Representative Peterson. She said Brother Van Der Wal called the UAW regional office the day after the tornado to say that the UAW-sponsored Junior Bowling banquet for Grand Rapids area children would have to be postponed due to the tornado. Van Der Wal is in charge of the affair.

After several minutes of conversation, he was asked if he personally had been affected by the twister.

"Yes," he answered matter-of-factly, "I lost everything I own."



Here's the delivery end of the UAW's "technical aid program" overseas. These Kenya Dockworkers union members are unloading a mimeograph machine in Kenya. The mimeograph is a present from UAW Local 153, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey. The UAW also is sending organizing kits (typewriter, mimeograph machine, and supplies) to other unions overseas.

## Million Auto Workers Near Annual Improvement Increase

The wages of more than a million UAW members will be increased by six cents or more on or before June 1.

That is the date of the annual improvement factor increases provided in most UAW contracts. Workers will receive six cents or 2 1/2 per cent of the hourly rate, whichever is greater.

The increases will mean a total boost of more than \$60,000 an hour for UAW members. It brings a weekly rise in purchasing power of more than \$2 1/2 million. The increase amounts to well over \$125 million on an annual basis. It represents a \$125 increase in annual straight time earnings for the lowest paid workers, more for higher pay classifications and skilled trades.

Chrysler workers, who got their annual improvement factor increases later than most workers last year, were first in line this year. Their pay raise went into effect April 1.

UAW Vice-President Norman Matthews, director of the Chrysler Department, pointed out: "This UAW-negotiated wage increase will assure Chrysler workers a steadily rising standard of living and will increase their pur-

chasing power at a time when such an increase is badly needed.

"We are particularly pleased because this improvement factor is going to white collar workers as well as production workers, and is being applied without regard to wage brackets on an across-the-board basis, under the terms of the contract.

"Only those white collar workers in the auto industry who belong to the UAW will receive increases on that basis," Matthews stated.

## UAW Begins Talks on Contract With Canadian Ford

**TORONTO**—For the first time since the long Ford of Canada strike of 1954-55, contract talks are now being held between the Company and the UAW. The Union's negotiating team is headed by George Burt, director of Region 7. The UAW represents about 11,000 Canadian Ford workers.

Burt said the Union's principal demands include a GAW plan, a 15-cent across-the-board wage increase, improved pensions, an eighth holiday, and five cents for foundry workers.

Ford of Canada plants are located in Windsor, Oakville and Etobicoke, all in Ontario.

The recent Ford of Canada strike was settled January 28, 1955.

## Catholic Labor Group Considers Merger

**QUEBEC, Quebec (PAI)**—The 100,000-member Canadian and Catholic Confederation of Labor is considering merger of its organization with the merged Trades and Labor Congress and the Canadian Congress of Labor which will take place on April 23. A CCCL labor unity committee has been directed to approach the TLC and the CCL on the question of merger.



... faces of these tor-



...SON gets filled in  
... Civil Defense war-  
... 356 and Al Baker

... were luckier than their next-door neighbors, the Stanley Chaffee family, who had lived through the Flint tornado three years ago, who had lost everything then, had moved to Hudsonville, only to lose everything again.



**PRESIDENT PAUL KIEL** of the UAW's Doehler-Jarvis Local 257 is told by one of his members, George Folkersma, of Leonard Heights (at right), and his wife, Rose, what it was like to live through a tornado. Picture in inset shows what the Folkersma's house looked like before the disaster.



"Passing out peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to the fellows got me nowhere! All I have in it today is a portable radio tuned to the ball game!"

# Reuther Urges World Fund To Raise Living Standards

UAW President Walter P. Reuther proposes that the "have" nations help ease world tensions by sharing some of their economic advantages with the "have nots."

He suggested that for the next 25 years the United States contribute two per cent of its gross national product into a World Fund to provide economic and technical aid to less developed nations.

The recommendation was part of a 10-point program for "Peace, Prosperity and Progress" sent by Reuther to U. S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

## SO THEY CAN HELP THEMSELVES

Purpose of the program, Reuther said in a letter to the Secretary of State, would be to "help the people of the economically less developed nations to help themselves in developing their own economic resources and in raising their standard of living, standard of health and standard of education."

Two per cent of the present gross national production would be approximately \$8 billion.

In outline the 10 points of the program are:

1. The two per cent contribution over a 25-year period; contributions to be made without qualifications.
2. Request that the USSR make a similar commitment.
3. Program to be administered through UN and multi-lateral agencies.
4. The sharing of America's food abundance under arrangements that would not dislocate the economy of any country that exports grains or foodstuffs.
5. Creation of a federal scholarship program to train a technical task force to be used "wherever needed and desired" to carry out the program for "peace, prosperity and progress."
6. Economic aid from the World Fund to be available to "unaligned" as well as to "aligned" nations.
7. United States aid to be made available at once through existing multi-lateral agencies

such as Sunfed and the Colombo plan, pending the UN's consideration of the creation of the World Fund.

8. Long-range economic commitments to deal with long-range economic problems.
9. The United States to "speak out clearly and act courageously against all forms of colonialism."
10. Immediate and effective action to meet the challenge of providing equal opportunity of political and economic citizenship to all Americans, regardless of race, creed or color.

In submitting the program to Secretary Dulles, Reuther said:

"It seems to me, as it does to many other Americans, that our economic aid programs have been too late and too little and have been planned and executed in a spirit of bargaining which has cost us dearly, seriously damaging the fund of good will which had existed in most cases beforehand.

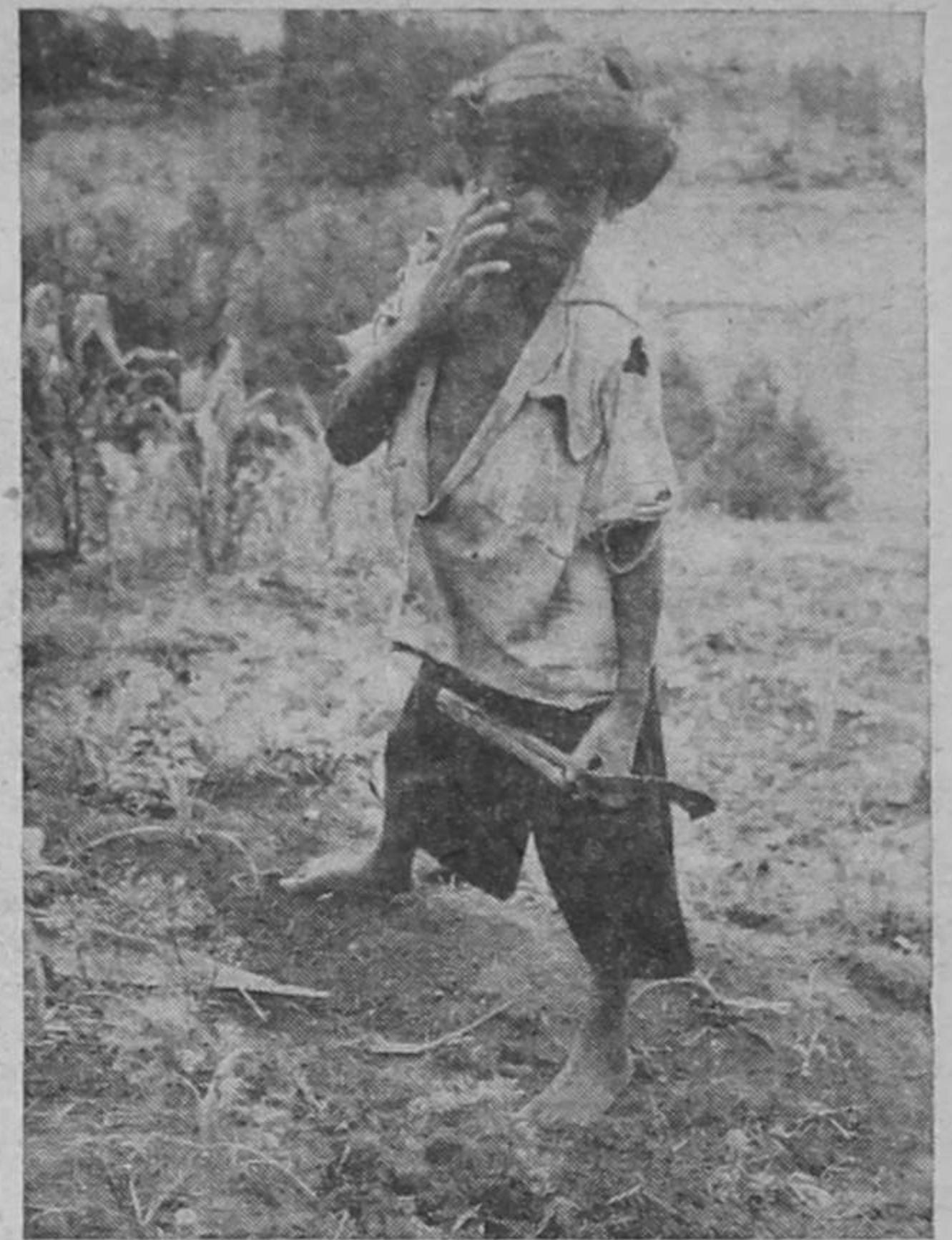
## DESIRE TO BE FREE NO EVIL

"There has been too much calculation," Reuther continued, "as to whether or not a nation receiving aid would submit to our leadership, whether it would fit itself into our current pattern of military alliances and whether it would demonstrate the proper amount of gratitude.

"We have developed too much the attitude, whether or not expressly stated in economic aid legislation or in the language of formal agreements, that if a country is not for us, she is against us.

"We have based our action on the recognition (if indeed recognition there has been) that nations newly independent, free for the first time in modern history from colonial domination, have a strong, reasonable and, I believe, understandable, desire to cling to independence in their foreign policies," Mr. Reuther continued

"As you acknowledged (in a recent press conference) in Jakarta, Indonesia, the young and newly independent United States was itself eager to devote its attention primarily to its own affairs and to avoid what George Washington called in his Farewell Address any 'entangling alliances.'



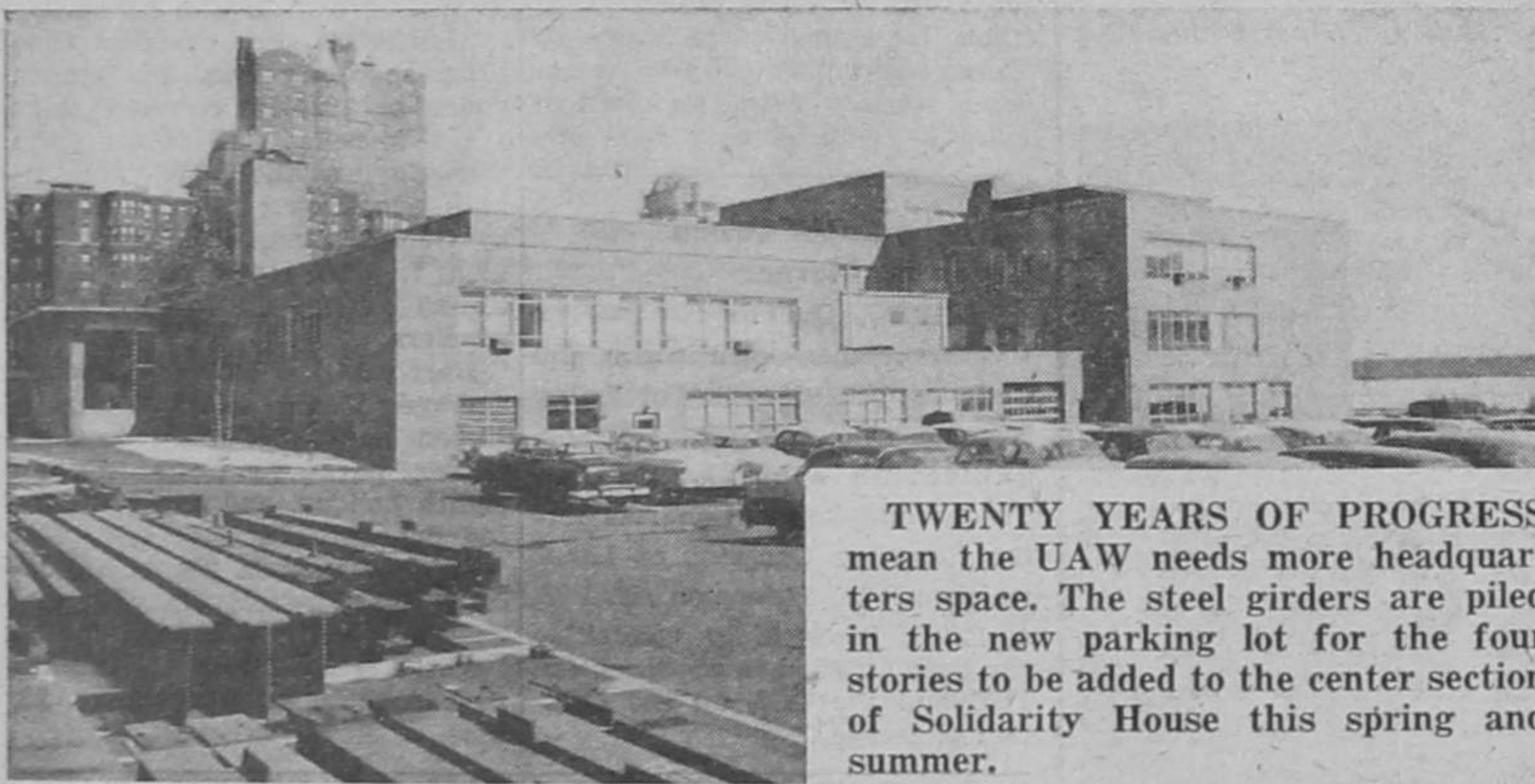
CHILD LABOR, as represented by this youngster in Indonesia who will know little but toil, is one of the evils which could be corrected by economic aid to underdeveloped countries.

"We must never forget the long years of colonial exploitation and imperialism by which the East judges the West," the UAW president said. "It would be convenient if we could just put that aside as if it had not happened, but we cannot do so, nor will the Asian and African countries let us if we try.

## H-BOMB, SYMBOL OF FAILURE

"Unfortunately, the policies and attitude of our government have failed to reflect an understanding of the social dynamics of our changing world, and have therefore continued to place an undue reliance upon the purely negative approach of military power and alliances.

"The hungry and desperate peoples of the world will respond to a positive program of massive retaliation against poverty, hunger and injustice. . . . Because of unfortunate phrases and bellicose utterances on the part of certain American officials, the H-bomb has, in the minds of millions of peoples throughout the world, become the symbol most commonly associated with American foreign policy."



TWENTY YEARS OF PROGRESS mean the UAW needs more headquarters space. The steel girders are piled in the new parking lot for the four stories to be added to the center section of Solidarity House this spring and summer.

## Technical GAW, Pension Items Hold Up Two Borg-Warner Locals

Two Local Unions, 729 at Ingersoll Steel in New Castle, Indiana, and 363 at Pesco Products in Cleveland, reported negotiations not yet completed on GAW and pensions at the quarterly meeting of the Borg-Warner Council in Chicago this month.

At Ingersoll technical GAW points are unresolved and both GAW and pensions are not concluded at Pesco although agreement is near. Local 42, Morris Chain in Detroit and Local 287, Warner Gear, Muncie, Indiana, are in agreement. All other contract terms in B-W plants were agreed upon earlier.

Vice-President Pat Greathouse, director of the Borg-Warner Department, reported that GAW and pension committees will be organized soon and that Region 1B Director William McAulay has announced workers at Primor Products, Adrian, Michigan, a new B-W Division, have voted 2 to 1 for the UAW in a recent NLRB election.

Delegates reported that Borg-Warner, like all parts manufacturers, has been hit by layoffs but that the concern is carrying forward its diversification plans and has announced a \$25 million expansion program, nearly twice the expenditure last year and not including a \$11 million plant being built in England.

## National GM Confab To Be Held in Detroit

A National UAW General Motors Conference will be held in Detroit's Fort Wayne Hotel on May 24 and 25, it has been announced by UAW International Vice-President Leonard Woodcock, director of the Union's General Motors Department.

In addition to the regular National GM Council delegates, the meeting will be attended by local committeemen who will handle the Supplemental Unemployment Benefits plans (SUB) in their respective locals.

A meeting of the UAW's National GM Negotiating Committee will be called a few days in advance of the Conference, Woodcock announced.

## First Master Contract at Champion Brings 24-cent Package, Big Gains

A master contract providing for an economic package in excess of 24 cents and for a union shop clause covering all units has been negotiated with the Champion Spark Plug Company, it was announced by UAW International Vice-President Richard Gosser.

The international agreement covers about 4,500 workers in five Champion plants in Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Canada.

### GAW PATTERN BENEFITS

The settlement, the first one ever reached with Champion on a multi-plant basis, includes a Supplemental Unemployment Benefit plan (SUB), a six-cent improvement factor, correction of wage inequities, a union shop clause for all plants, uniformity of grievance procedures, improvements in contract language and other "pattern" benefits.

The agreement covers members of Detroit Local 272; the Champion Unit of Toledo's Amalgamated Local 12; Cambridge, Ohio, Local 886; Hellertown, Pennsylvania, Local 1238, and Amalgamated Local 195, Windsor, Ontario.

The Windsor local also gained the 40-hour week and improvements in medical and hospital benefits, including a completely non-contributory Blue Cross-Windsor Medical plan, paid for entirely by the Company.

### STRIKE SETTLED

The Detroit local, which was on strike for nearly two months

over local issues, gained a preferential hiring and transfer of products clause.

Local 272 members, who returned to work March 1, also boast inclusion of the UAW's model clause on discrimination in their contract. The new clause covers every phase except hiring, which is covered by state law in Michigan.



"About that raise I promised you, Miss Willow—I assume you realize that oral agreements are not binding."





THE AFL-CIO INDUSTRIAL Union Department gets down to business. Left to right are: Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey, President Walter P. Reuther and Director Al Whitehouse.

## IUD Board Outlines Program; Membership Now at 7 Million

WASHINGTON—The Industrial Union Department of the AFL-CIO held the first meeting of its Executive Board here last month and outlined a program covering legislation, collective bargaining problems, automation and jurisdiction.

UAW President Walter P. Reuther is president of the Industrial Union Department which has 72 affiliated unions and represents about 7,000,000 workers.

The Department's Executive Board meeting completed the structure of the group, naming four vice-presidents, approving membership for three more affiliates and initiating the creation of industry groups within the Department.

The Board elected as vice-presidents: Secretary-Treasurer Frank Rosenblum of the Clothing Workers; President Peter T. Schoemann of the Plumbers & Pipefitters; President James G. Cross of the Bakers and President Al Hayes of the Machinists.

IUD President Reuther announced the plan for establishing committees within the Department to provide a "common denominator" for unions with common interests and problems.

As an example, he cited a metal manufacturing and machining and fabricating committee which would have at least a dozen unions in its makeup. Similar committees in the consumer soft goods industries and others will also be established as well as groups to study automation, pensions, the guaranteed wage and related subjects.

### PRAISE FROM MEANY

AFL-CIO President George Meany told the IUD that a major task of the Department should be to assist in finding solutions to jurisdictional problems and commended the IUD program.

"I see less friendship for our movement on Capitol Hill than I have for a long time," Meany noted and asserted that before unions can right this situation, "We must put our own house in order."

A conference on legislation will be conducted by the IUD in Washington in about six weeks, Arthur J. Goldberg, IUD general counsel, reported.

Reporting on the recommendations of the IUD Executive Committee for the vacant vice-presidencies, Reuther said the group decided it could not "in conscience support anyone whose union, for reasons best known to them," had not signed the AFL-CIO no-raiding agreement. All those recommended,

he said, were from unions that are signatories to the pact.

The membership of a committee from the IUD to work with a group from the Building Trades Department was announced.

The three new unions admitted to the IUD are the Transport Workers, who affiliated for 80,000 members; the Hosiery Workers, for 10,000; and the Stove Mounters, 4,500.

### TWO MORE APPLY

Reuther told a press conference later that two unions, which he would not identify, had applied for membership, but the applications were being "held in abeyance" pending investigation "to be sure they are in conformity with the ethical standards" of the Department.

"We are going to keep the IUD clean," Reuther said.

He told the same conference he regarded jurisdictional strikes as "anti-labor and anti-social and morally wrong."

### Royal Salesman

Members of UAW Local 330, Grand Rapids, Michigan, were surprised to learn recently that a European king is selling the products they make.

Local 330 members work at Lear, Inc., which makes electronic equipment for aircraft. The Company announced last month that former King Michael of Rumania is the new European sales manager for the firm.

### Victory at Mattoon, Illinois

## Another Runaway That Didn't Work

MATTOON, Illinois—Young Radiator Company workers in Racine, Wisconsin, are members of UAW Local 37. When the Company decided to expand a number of years ago, it looked around for a way to avoid UAW representation for new employees.

Rather than expand in Racine, it picked Mattoon, Illinois,

a community with an anti-union climate. The device was so successful that Young workers in Mattoon early this year were averaging a scant \$1.50 an hour, including a 10-cent raise given when the UAW started an organizing drive. In Racine, the average hourly rate is \$2.59.



SPECIAL PROBLEMS of white-collar workers receive some special-consideration during this breather at the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department meeting. Emil Mazey, UAW secretary-treasurer, left, chats with Howard Coughlin, president of the Office Employees; James Suffridge, president of the Retail Clerks, and Russell Stephens, president of the Technical Engineers.

## Truck Firm Changes Site, Name; Bargaining Rights Remain Same

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota—Another employer has learned that you can't get away from the UAW.

The Union has won a significant victory in a representation election conducted by the NLRB at the new Napco Industries, Inc., plant here. The Company is the successor to the defunct Federal Truck firm of Detroit.

The UAW had held a contract with Federal Truck at the time it was purchased by Napco. The new firm, instead of reopening the shut plant in Detroit, moved to Minnesota, apparently in "the belief that it could get away from the UAW."

UAW International Vice-President Richard Gosser, director of the Competitive Shop Department, which conducted the organizing drive at the new plant, announced the NLRB results: 148 for UAW, 91 for no union, and five for the IAM.

Gosser pointed out that although the plant currently employs only about 250, the Company has announced that employment will be increased to about 1,000 within the next few months.

The election victory was achieved despite a vicious propaganda campaign by the Company to induce a "no union" vote.

"This plant, along with the 3,500 Minneapolis-Moline workers who affiliated with the UAW last summer, represents a substantial boost in UAW membership in this area in the past year," Gosser declared.

The firm produces Federal trucks, construction and highway safety equipment. The Napco workers, at their first meeting following the election, voted to become a unit of UAW Amalgamated Local 125.

Gosser also announced that bargaining rights have been

★ ★ ★

won at 56 other plants since the first of the year, getting the Union off to a good start in 1956.

The newly organized plants are in Michigan, Ohio, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

## UAW Urges Supreme Court To Affirm Decision

WASHINGTON—The UAW has filed a motion urging the U. S. Supreme Court to affirm the decision of Federal District Judge Frank A. Picard throwing out of court an attempt by the Republican Party to deny to UAW members the right of political activity through their Union.

The U. S. Department of Justice appealed Judge Picard's decision which was handed down February 8. Since the Union's "motion to affirm" was filed, the Justice Department has urged the highest court to "act with almost unprecedented haste" in order to have a decision handed down before the 1956 campaign begins.

UAW officers are confident that the Supreme Court will uphold the lower court and also would welcome an early decision.

Those acquainted with Supreme Court routine doubt, however, that a decision will be forthcoming before the court adjourns for the summer.

The Mattoon workers voted an end to their second-class citizenship status in a recent NLRB election, however, to cap with success an organizing drive by the UAW Competitive Shop Department under the direction of Vice-President Richard Gosser.

The vote was: 144 UAW, 43 no union. Since the election, all but 10 of the 220 workers in the bargaining unit have signed UAW membership cards.

During the organizing campaign, the Company gave further increases of 10 to 20 cents to many workers to try to buy their votes. Last October it fired an active UAW supporter. The UAW filed a four-point unfair labor practice charge and, after investigation, the NLRB cited the Company on seven counts.

In an unusual action, the NLRB permitted the Union to waive the charges without prejudice in order to permit the election. The charges come up for a hearing May 8 but the Company, since the UAW victory, has indicated a willingness to pay lost time and settle the case.

The climate in Mattoon has changed a lot. The UAW has two more drives under way here. One involves a runoff election at Blaw-Knox and the other is at the new Metal Hose Division of American Brass.

In addition to UAW successes, inroads are being made by the Furniture Workers, IUE, and Steelworkers. February saw the first issue of *Mattoon Labor*, a tabloid paper sponsored jointly by the UAW and those three Unions.



DELEGATES FROM 14 UAW LOCALS braved a typical wintry blast in Buffalo to participate in the annual UAW Regions 8, 9 and 9A Office and Technical Conference at the Statler Hotel. After discussing contracts, grievances, arbitration methods, automation and related subjects, the delegates heard UAW Vice-President Norman Matthews, director of the Union's Office and Technical Department, reiterate the goal of organizing all unorganized office and technical workers under the Union's jurisdiction.

## Kohler Strike No Bar To Organizational Drive

SHEBOYGAN, Wisconsin—The workers of this city know the value of a UAW contract and what it means in terms of support from a great international union.

This was proved once again last month when Region 10 and the Competitive Shop Department announced a victory in an NLRB-conducted election at the Optenberg Iron Works here, manufacturer of heavy iron parts. Out of 33 employees eligible to vote, 24 chose the UAW, eight voted for no union, and one man was absent.

There is nothing remarkable about this election except that it took place in a city which has been the scene of a two-year-old strike by UAW Local 833 against the vicious anti-labor Kohler Company. Despite a two-year exposure to Kohler-inspired propaganda directed against the UAW, these workers voted three to one for the Union.

Last September, more than 63 per cent of the employees of Vinyl Plastics voted for the UAW in another representation election. These workers are now members of Local 1332 and have a good contract which includes a pension, full seniority, arbitration of grievances and many of the other demands which the Kohler Company still refuses to grant to the striking Local 833.

Vinyl Plastics, which makes plastic floor tiles, is owned by Robert Kohler, a brother of Wisconsin's Governor Kohler and a nephew of Bathtub Baron Herbert Kohler, the Kohler of Kohler overlord. The Company employs about 120 workers.

## UAW Urges Doctors and Hospitals to Help Develop Fair Prepaid Health Service Plan

It is not too much to expect the doctors, the hospitals and prepayment plans to work out together a satisfactory method of furnishing comprehensive prepaid health services of high quality at a price workers can afford, James Brindle, director of the UAW Social Security Department, told members of Michigan Governor G. Mennen Williams' Study Commission on Prepaid Hospital Care Plans on behalf of the UAW last month.

"Blue Cross alone cannot provide comprehensive health services. The hospitals, the medical profession and medical prepayment plans, such as Blue Shield, also are involved," he said, pointing out that the physicians in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, have developed a comprehensive system "which could be imitated by any County Medical Society in Michigan."

"Our opposition to the recent rate increase should not be construed as unwillingness to pay the proper cost of prepaid care," he added. "We want a high standard of prepaid hospital and medical care and are willing to pay a reasonable and appropriate price for it."

"Part of the increasing cost is inescapable. Hospital employees are receiving badly needed wage increases and other benefits. Their hours of work are being cut. More people are going to the hospital more often than before."

"The cost of prepayment, however, also is going up because of wasteful practices that now exist and because of deficiencies in the prepayment mechanism."

Earlier, UAW President Walter Reuther released the summary of a UAW survey of actual doctor's charges for surgical care in Michigan with the following statement:

"The survey demonstrates that Blue Shield has failed miserably in its obligation to enforce either the spirit or the letter of the full payment terms of the Blue Shield contract and that doctors have taken advantage of Blue Shield laxity to gouge unfortunate patients."

"Blue Shield should take immediate steps to enforce the full payment provisions of its contracts and urge the Michigan State Medical Society and the Wayne County Medical Society to give full cooperation to put an end to this evil practice of overcharging for surgical services."

"The judge obliged—granting a temporary injunction prohibiting all picketing and demanded that the UAW show cause in three hours why it shouldn't be made permanent. At the show-cause hearing, the judge suggested the parties try to settle their dispute and postponed the hearing until the next morning."

At the same time, however, Judge Ferguson also cited 10 UAW members, three UAW Local Unions, and the International for "contempt of court" for violating the injunction—even though

## Judge Ferguson Has Way—Two Unionists Serve Terms

Detroit Circuit Judge Frank Ferguson, a brother of Homer Ferguson, ex-GOP senator from Michigan, retired from the U. S. Senate in 1954 by the people of Michigan, gained a measure of revenge late last month.

Two years ago members of UAW Local 656 went on strike when the Great Lakes Greyhound Lines moved into a new garage which failed to meet health and safety standards.

The strike was settled when the Company, admitting the merit in the UAW demands, spent \$74,000 to eliminate the hazardous conditions. When the strike started, however, the Company went before Judge Ferguson and sought an injunction prohibiting picketing.

there hardly had been time to notify pickets of the injunction. The Company and the Union reached agreement early the next morning and went before Judge Ferguson to have the injunction dropped. Both the Company and the Union asked the judge to drop the "contempt" citations. Judge Ferguson refused in the cases of three of the individuals.

The UAW carried the cases to the Michigan Supreme Court. The Court dropped one of the three defendants but upheld in the cases of Nolan and Doddie. Last month the U. S. Supreme Court refused to hear the case because "no constitutional issue is involved."

Joseph McCusker, co-director of UAW Region 1A, one of the original defendants, summed it up in a statement issued as Nolan and Doddie were surrendered to the court:

"Nolan and Doddie are being surrendered today to serve 10-day jail terms to satisfy, not justice, but a judge."

## Handicaps Don't Hinder UAW Bowling Champion

The reason for handicap bowling tournaments is to give the medium and low average bowlers a better chance to compete with high average bowlers. Most high average bowlers feel that the handicaps are too big and few of them will compete except in "scratch" (no handicap) events.

The UAW's fifth annual tourney which recently closed a seven-week stand in Columbus, Ohio, provided evidence that scratch bowlers win in handicap events, too.

Gerry Schmidt, Local 305, is a 200-average bowler in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He fired a 681 (27 pins a game over his average) in the singles division and wound up as champion, three pins ahead of runnerup John Herzer, Local 9, South Bend, Indiana.

The UAW men and women divided \$11,350 in prizes, plus trophies, and the entries were the highest in history with 115 locals from 52 cities in nine states and Ontario represented.

Here are the top three finishers in each division:

### MEN'S TEAMS

Local 189, Detroit, 3057; Anderson's Cleaners Local 1005, Cleveland, 3018; Team No. 1, Local 486, Cleveland, 3009.

### MEN'S DOUBLES

Gene Antuck, Ray Payne, Local 196, Battle Creek, 1313; Bernard Cordes, Roger Sauerweine, Local 863, Cincinnati, 1290; Larry Wagner, Stan Pawlak, Local 735, Detroit, 1270.

### MEN'S SINGLES

Gerry Schmidt, Local 305, Fort Wayne (scratch bowler), 681; John Herzer, Local 9, South Bend, 678; Richard Haan, Local 196, Battle Creek, 678.

### MEN'S ALL EVENTS

Bob Scheuher, Local 314, Detroit, 1898; Ed Winder, Local 489,



GERRY SCHMIDT

South Bend, 1898; Charles West, Local 212, Detroit, 1887.

### WOMEN'S TEAMS

Bendix Lassies, Local 9, South Bend, 2882; Strikers, Local 941, Elkhart, 2838; Paint Spots, Local 941, Elkhart, 2830.

### WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Lucille Davis, Harriette Bowlby, Local 941, Elkhart, 1208; Dolores Crudup, Druilla Pace, Local 261, Detroit, 1180; Mahala Grasty, Floysselle Washington, Local 261, Detroit, 1179.

### WOMEN'S SINGLES

Esther Turbeville, Local 9, South Bend, 668; Joan Badur, Local 9, South Bend, 653; Betty Mock, Local 941, Elkhart, 635.

### WOMEN'S ALL EVENTS

Betty Mock, Local 941, Elkhart, 1886; Lucille Davis, Local 941, Elkhart, 1880; Esther Kopy, Local 941, Elkhart, 1816.

## Chrysler Office Worker Wages Are More Than Doubled by UAW

Salaries for white collar workers at Chrysler Corporation have more than doubled in the past 15 years, a survey of gains prepared by the UAW Office and Technical Workers Department reveals.

The job worth \$200 a month before the Union-won increase of June, 1941, is now worth \$450. The worker who held that job 15 years ago likely has made a lot more progress than that through Union-won chances for advancement.

Here's what happened to that \$200-a-month job when Chrysler white collar workers formed themselves a Union:

June, 1941—8 per cent (8%) increase for all employees	\$216.00
January, 1943—\$10 per month increase up to \$200; 5 per cent (5%) increase between \$200 and \$350 per month	226.80
January, 1946—\$32.50 per month increase for all employees	259.30
April, 1947—9 per cent (9%) with \$26 minimum per month increase for all employees	285.30
May, 1948—9 per cent (9%) with a \$20 minimum increase for all employees	310.98
September, 1950—7 per cent (7%) with \$17.50 minimum increase for all employees	332.75
June, 1951—\$10 a month Improvement Factor increase	342.75
June, 1952—\$10 a month Improvement Factor increase	352.75
June, 1953—\$31.66 Cost of Living factored into monthly salary	384.41
June, 1953—\$14.24 a month Improvement Factor increase	398.65
June, 1954—\$14.24 a month Improvement Factor increase	412.89
June, 1955—\$10.98 or 3 per cent (3%) whichever is greater a month Improvement Factor increase	425.28
December, 1955—Quarterly Cost of Living in the amount of \$35 or the equivalent of \$11.66 per month	436.94
April, 1956—\$10.98 or 3 per cent (3%) whichever is greater a month Improvement Factor increase	450.05



TYPICAL of the support being received by Kohler workers is this picket line in Burlington, Iowa. Kohler Co. Vice-President L. L. Smith came to Burlington to give the Kohler pitch at a personnel conference. UAW Local 807, the J. I. Case works, arranged a 20-man "truth" picket line. Ray Beetner, Local 807 bargaining committeeman, carried the large sign. At left: Tom Treharne, president of the Burlington Building Trades Council.

# Kohler Strike Enters Its Third Year; Boycott Is Boomed as 'Best Weapon'

**SHEBOYGAN, Wisconsin**—Kohler workers prepared for many more months of their effort to win a decent contract from the Kohler Co. as their strike entered its third year on April 5.

After two years on the picket line, the collective bargaining situation was still at a stalemate. Local 833, almost as strong in numbers and certainly stronger in spirit than the day the strike started, still faces a Company willing to go to insane lengths to break the Union. The tactical situation:

- **Kohler Company spokesmen say their first obligation is to the scabs** recruited from a wide area. They refuse to consider a contract which calls for turning out scabs and restoring veteran workers to their regular jobs. It claims "fewer than 500" jobs are available.
- **UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey states quite clearly the Union is unwilling to negotiate for scabs or seek a contract** which will leave the majority of Kohler workers outside the plant while strikebreakers hold the jobs.
- **The National Labor Relations Board is winding up hearings on a dozen unfair labor practice charges** against the Kohler Co. The Union is confident the NLRB will order workers restored to their jobs, but this decision is probably two or three years away.
- **Kohler workers enthusiastically support the primary boycott of Kohler plumbingware** as the "best weapon" to bring about the pressure necessary for a settlement. A declining number of railroad shipments and growing stockpiles of unsold plumbingware show that this boycott is becoming increasingly effective.

## NATIONWIDE BATTLEGROUND

The battleground of the strike is shifting from Sheboygan to wherever Kohler plumbingware is sold. Kohler Company's top brass, from the president, Herbert V. Kohler, down to vice-presidents virtually retired, are scouting about the country making speeches

designed to justify the Company's position and perk up sales.

UAW International representatives, local union members and members of other unions continue to dry up Kohler's sources of sales. Activities range from picketline established in Newark, N. J., and Burlington, Iowa, to counter Company advertising and propaganda to quiet conversations urging people "Don't Buy Kohler Products!"

With the spring building surge giving its competitors a lift, the Kohler Company is cutting off its profit nose to spite its anti-union face. Its efforts to destroy the Union are steadily draining its sales prospects.

Kohler workers this month began a widespread search for jobs as the Kohler Co. continued to act like the wrestler who would rather have his back broken than say "Uncle." Clearly willing to strike for as many years as are required to win a decent contract, they also prepared to work elsewhere should the Kohler Co. prefer to prolong the strike until little in the way of jobs, or Company sales prospects remains.

## BOYCOTTING A BATHTUB BARON

With this impasse, considerable attention focused on Herbert V. Kohler who has almost single-handed control of the Company. Called to trial in the NLRB hearings this month, Kohler said that he was responsible for firing all of the strike leaders. He took personal responsibility for all the Company's strike strategy.

He also admitted, under oath, that he did not know the status of Union demands.

While the Bathtub Baron growled his defiance from the witness stand, another Kohler Company official quietly asked a newspaper reporter, "Has the Union said how it expects to turn off this boycott?"

On the picketline, a veteran grinder summed up the situation: "We just have to boycott until we boycott some sense into this management's head."

# UAW Women Buckle Down To Union Building Tasks

UAW women members, who proved during World War II and the Korean conflict that they could hold down key jobs in both Union and plant, are taking an increasingly active role in the Union.

Proof of this is the number of women's conferences being held in the various UAW regions, classes in numerous local unions and localities, plus family participation conferences for politically activating women members, recreation and hobby groups, and fashion shows.

In addition, they took part in workshops on subjects ranging from automation to political action.

Region 2A held its women's conference in Columbus early this month with UAW Regional Director Ray Ross as leadoff speaker.

**Vice-President Pat Greathouse called upon the conference for complete cooperation in the COPE dollar drive. He stressed the importance of political action to protect past gains and win future improvements in taxes, social security, workmen's and unemployment compensation.**

A series of workshops handled special topics of interest to women workers.

On the west coast, the gals in UAW Local 179, Bendix Aviation in Van Nuys, California, got fed up with the routine and lower paying jobs they were forced to do. They investigated the possibility of a training program. Finding commercial schools were too high, they got together with their local president, local Executive Board, Women's Department representative, and their Women's Committee. Result: Job training classes are now being set up.

At Local 805, Grayson Controls, a bighearted management chose a few gals to learn the intricacies of time study. The Women's Committee thought this over, and decided if time study was going to be taught to union members, why not a union time study

course? Shortly, time study classes will be started in their own Local Union.

## A Newsy Query

# How Does a Michigan Democrat Get to Be Connecticut GOpPer?

The *Detroit News*, a daily paper which has misrepresented before, has been caught with its photo-captions down by a Detroit UAW member, a life-long Democrat who objects to being misplaced in Connecticut by the publication with an inference yet that he's a Republican!

Robert L. Jones, long-time member of UAW Local 22 and a worker at Cadillac, had a good reason for the happy smile a *Detroit News* photographer caught on his face in the late summer of 1938. Jones had just been called back to work after a long layoff due to a model changeover.

The picture was taken as he clocked in. Also in the picture were two other UAW Cadillac workers, Frank Colovich and Ernie Smith. None of them objected when *The Detroit News* used the photo on page one of its Rotogravure section on September 4, 1938, with a caption reading: "Back to Work!"

## ONLY FACTS CHANGE

Jones got quite a jolt while reading the March 9, 1956, edition of the paper, however. Right there he was again—or rather, there was that same picture, in the same paper, nearly 19 years later. It was the same—only the facts were changed!

This time the picture accompanied an article entitled: "Grass Roots Voices." The article had a Hartford, Connecticut, dateline and spoke of "the overriding political factor in Connecticut today" as "present high levels of employment and income in the state," and con-

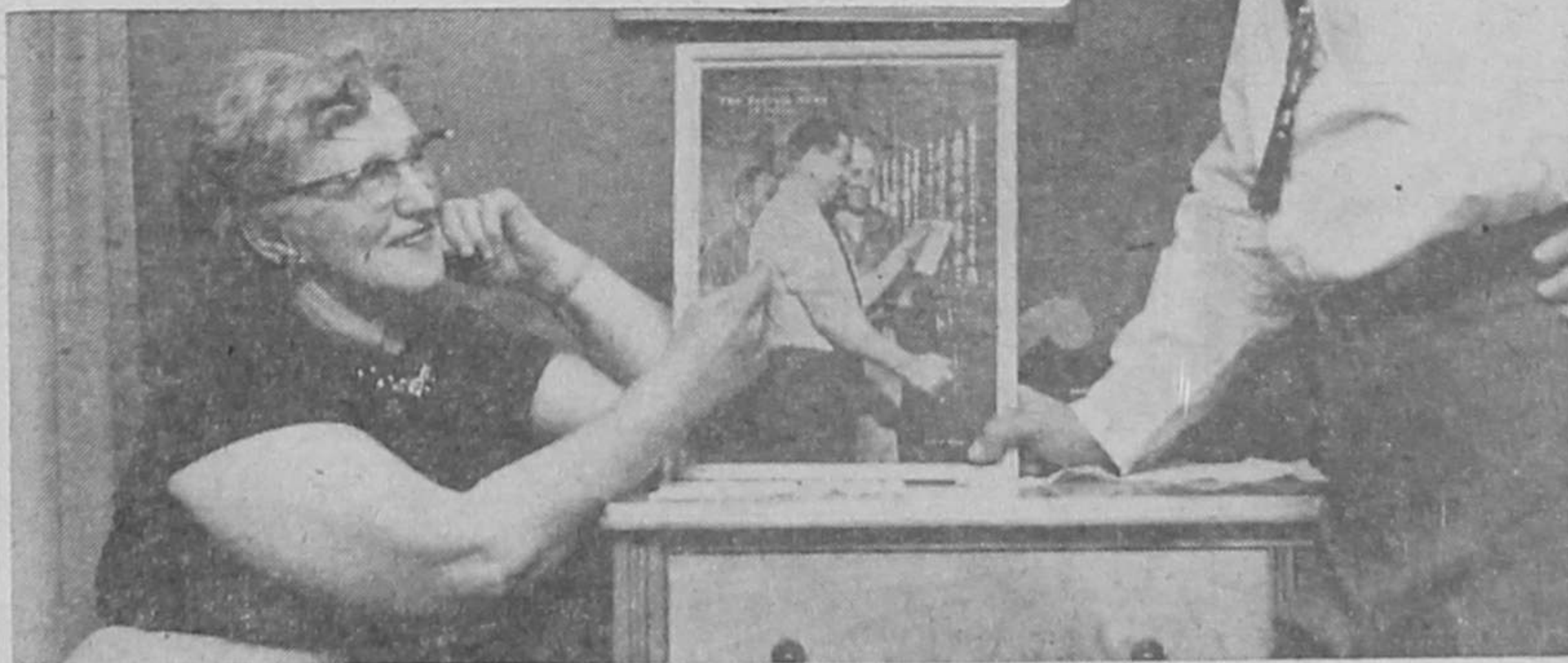
tained a sub-heading reading, "Foresee GOP Victory."

Under the picture this time the caption read: "MUSIC TO THE GOP: Connecticut workers are busy and prosperous; this may be the deciding factor in November."

UAW member Jones, a Michigan Democrat, wants it known

he's not now (nor was he in 1938) a Connecticut Republican. He's talked to an attorney who has written to *The Detroit News* giving notice to publish a retraction.

So far, neither Jones nor the attorney has had a reply. The nearly 18-year-old picture hasn't been reprinted (recently) either.



Mr. and Mrs. Jones are pictured here in their home with a framed copy of the 1938 printing of the Cadillac worker's picture as he clocked in after a layoff due to a model change. The home's in Dearborn, Michigan—not Connecticut!

## Pin Meet Scheduled

Entries close April 24 for the UAW Region 1C mixed doubles bowling tournament at the Downtown Recreation, 643 Harrison St., Flint, Michigan, Art Pratt and Earl Crompton, tourney directors, report. All UAW members are eligible for the handicap event. Entry blanks are available at the alleys with bowling scheduled April 28-29.

# Three Straight Victories!

**MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota**—The UAW Competitive Shop Department won its third consecutive NLRB election here this year when workers at Metallurgical, Incorporated, which does heat-treating of auto parts, voted for the UAW

as bargaining representative. Metallurgical workers will affiliate with UAW Amalgamated Local 125.

The other victories here this year were at Napco Corporation and Federal Aircraft Company.

## Roosevelt U Gets \$7,700

**CHICAGO (PAI)**—A grant of \$7,700 to be used in the training of qualified young women for trade union leadership has been presented to Roosevelt University by the Mary N. Winslow Memorial Foundation of Washington.



## Shoes Up; Washers Down

This spring for the first time you can buy a fairly good automatic washer for as little as \$150 and a large automatic-defrost refrigerator for about \$275. But moderate-income families have a new problem in increasing cost of shoes, which were raised for spring and are going to go up again this fall.

In announcing the latest hike on shoes, the manufacturers followed the now-familiar pattern of the food, steel and auto industries of blaming the increase on higher labor and material costs, but at the same time disclosed the real reason behind the price hikes: higher profits and dividends.

In revealing that retail prices will go up 50 cents to \$1 again this fall, General Shoe Corporation, for example, one of the largest manufacturers, attributed the boost "to increased costs of raw materials, labor and other expenses," but also announced it is increasing dividends paid to stockholders by 20 per cent.

Here are tips to hold down costs when buying these and other necessities:

Next semi-annual shoe sales are the July clearances. We advise adults to fill in their needs at that time. But the real problem is children's shoes. When you have to pay \$7-\$8 for shoes for a youngster (and \$7.50 to \$9 next fall), families with several children have a real burden. The only solution is to comparison-shop more widely. The lower-price chains offer good quality at a more reasonable charge, but generally don't take as much time and care in fitting as the higher-price stores. So you have to exercise care yourself, making sure the shoes when bought are a half-inch longer than the toes, and fit snugly but not uncomfortably against the child's heel. Replace heels early to save shoes from being thrown out of shape and wearing out prematurely.

### APPLIANCE COLD WAR ON WAY

The opening gun has sounded in a price war on appliances among the largest manufacturers. One manufacturer (Hotpoint) has just announced a special on its standard-quality automatic washer of about \$170, which means you can buy it at discounts, now given by most retailers for \$150 and sometimes less.

This is the first time fully-automatic washers have been offered at this level. The standard model is the same basic machine as this Company's deluxe machine with the chief difference that it lacks the five-minute washing cycle for delicate fabrics like synthetics, and the rubber fins on the agitator for extra protection against wear.

The same Company has also slashed the price of its 11-foot automatic defrost refrigerator with a 75-pound freezer compartment, to a new low list of about \$290, less any discounts given by retailers. This is an unusually large freezer compartment.

### KEEP YOUR EYE ON QUALITY

You can expect additional price cuts on refrigerators in June, traditional month for special sales and clearances on this item. But in buying a refrigerator, invest your money in good basic quality rather than trick features. Look for shelves at least 16 inches deep, an efficient door latch that will open at the touch of your elbow and deep doors for adequate in-the-door storage. Round shelves may offer some convenience, but they sacrifice shelf space.

Pastel-colored appliances aren't proving as popular with the public and dealers as they did with the commercial women's magazines, who got very excited over this idea. You run into problems of matching or mixing colors. But one new washing machine (Bendix) is available with Formica work-surface tops in different colors. This feature has special merit for families that keep the washer in the kitchen as more and more do. It provides an extra four square feet of work counter on what is otherwise usually waste space.

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PHIL HART, lieutenant governor of Michigan, right, is shown here discussing highlights of the 1956 UAW Michigan Recreation Conference in the Kellogg Center at Michigan State University in East Lansing with UAW Region 1C Director Robert Carter, left, and Olga Madar, director of the UAW Recreation Department.

## UAW Recreation Conference Delegates Urge More Parks, Planning for Leisure

The need for immediate and long-range acquisition of land for recreational use and for comprehensive planning for increased leisure time brought about by automation were the key topics for more than 200 delegates to the 1956 Michigan UAW Recreation Conference at Michigan State University last month.

As one step towards meeting the immediate need for more facilities, the delegates unanimously passed a special recommendation to the Michigan CIO Council urging support for adoption of Governor G. Mennen Williams' current budget provisions for land acquisition in Michigan.

Pointing out that the development of state parks has not kept pace with increased leisure, interest and participation on the part of the increased population, the recommendation concluded: "The shortage of land space for recreation purposes will become even more acute in the next decade as automation increases productivity and results in the 35 or 30-hour week. The full benefits of this leisure can be partially realized only as we develop our natural resources and acquire additional park facilities.

"There is a need for immediate action on the part of our

elected officials to appropriate the necessary funds while suitable land is still available."

Problems of the state conservation department were highlighted for the delegates by officials of the Michigan Department of Conservation and faculty members of Michigan State University. Douglas Fraser, administrative assistant to UAW President Walter P. Reuther, described the effect automation is having and will have in giving workers additional leisure time.

Charging that recreation hasn't been accorded its rightful place in city, state, or federal government planning, Olga Madar, director of the UAW Recreation Department, called for the establishment of a government department to study the needs of the people, train recreational leaders, develop facilities, and provide for adequate financing of the entire program.

### Why Not Use Tribune To Wrap the Smelt?

CHICAGO—The air conditioning system in the Chicago Tribune building broke down recently when a school of fish clogged openings in the system's water intake tubes. The building is on the Chicago River.

The culprits were smelt, and the Chicago temperature that day was 79. The reports don't say whether the smelt smelled, but at any rate, UAW members in this area have always known that there's something fishy about the Tribune.

Or did the stench come from the Kohler showrooms, which occupy the Tribune's ground floor?

### Time to Go Home, Boys

BARNESLEY, England—Times have changed around the big Wharnclyffe Colliery here. Work hours are being arranged to fit into the local television schedule.

After a union demand, mine officials agreed to start the late shift one hour earlier "so the men can get home in time to have a glass of beer, watch television and see their children before they go to bed."



VINCE DONIERO (far right), a member of the Spicer Unit, UAW Local 12, Toledo, Ohio, is shown here being congratulated after winning the national bantam-weight boxing championship in the Golden Gloves finals in Chicago. He won the open division bantam title in the Toledo tourney to qualify for the Chicago tourney. With him here, left to right: Bill Borden; Clem Holewinski, president of Local 12; Don Pinciotti, and Pat Doniero, Sr., Vince's father. Borden and Pinciotti are UAW International representatives.

## Region 4 Delegates Elect Bob Johnston

CHICAGO—A special convention of Region 4 delegates called expressly for the purpose of electing a new regional director to replace Pat Greathouse, who was recently named a UAW vice-president, was unanimous in choosing staff member Robert W. Johnston to serve as director until the 1957 UAW Convention.

Immediately after the election, Johnston was sworn into office by UAW Secretary-Treasurer Emil Mazey who presided over the special convention in the Morrison Hotel. Vice-President Pat Greathouse, former Region 4 director, also was present.

Johnston, a member of UAW Local 79, John Deere Spreader Works at East Moline, Illinois, has been on the Region 4 staff since April, 1948. He was formerly president of Local 79.

Born in Hiteman, Iowa, some 41 years ago, the new regional director is married and the father of three children—one boy and two girls. He comes from a labor family; his father being a coal miner from Southern Iowa where John L. Lewis got his start, and his mother a pensioner from UAW Local 856, East Moline, Illinois.

While on the Region 4 staff, Johnston served as PAC chair-

man for the Iowa State CIO Council. He served also as Community Services chairman for the state group.



ROBERT W. JOHNSTON  
Director, UAW Region 4