

Action on Compensation For Veterans Immediately Is Urged By UAW President

By R. J. THOMAS
President U. A. W.-C. I. O.

The General Motors Corporation sit-down strike against collective bargaining has thrown out of work at least 50,000 veterans of World War II who are members of the UAW-CIO. These veterans may be ruled ineligible for unemployment benefits under the G. I. Bill of Rights. They are getting no benefits under the state unemployment compensation laws.

Additional thousands of veterans employed in the Ford Motor Company and in numerous other auto or parts plants not on strike are also out of work as a result of the General Motors-provoked strikes.

The situation confronting the veterans in the automobile industry demands immediate attention by the U. S. Veterans Administration, by the Federal Congress, and by the various state legislatures.

VETERANS HIT HARDEST

Four states have laws providing that works on strike are entitled to unemployment compensation after a certain period of weeks. The New York law, for example, permits

a worker on strike to draw benefits after a seven-week period. The veterans, however, in most cases has not been back on the job long enough to have accumulated earnings credits, so he will not be eligible for unemployment benefits.

He may not be eligible, also, for benefits under the G. I. Bill. Pending passage of the Wagner bill, S. 1813, which

See VETERANS' COMPENSATION, Page 4

Reo Local 650 Gets 2% Bonus

BY RAYMOND W. REED
Pres. Reo Local 650

Reo Local 650, UAW-CIO takes pleasure in notifying its members that a 2% bonus on their earnings will be paid and are eligible under the following terms, quoted from a letter received from management on October 24, in answer to our letter as of October 3 requesting payment of the bonus:

"A bonus of 2% of each employee's earnings during the period from November 27, 1944 to December 1, 1945 will be paid to all employees on the payroll on the latter date.

"Also, employees who were on the payroll on August 15, 1945 but who were not on it on December 1, 1945 due to termination or cancellation of Government contracts, will be eligible to receive a bonus of 2% of their earnings between the period from November 27, 1944 to the termination of their employment providing the employee makes a written notarized request for such payment prior to February 1, 1946. A letter to this effect will be sent to all such employees by register."

See REO BONUS, Page 3

ZELLER SPEAKS AT 1861 HOUSE



Jack Zeller, above, addresses the Local 724 banquet at the 1861 House Saturday night. He is director of the UAW-CIO education department. Shown with him at the table is Clayton Carpenter, Intl. representative from the education department.

Forty-five officers, committeemen and stewards of UAW Local 724 enjoyed a dinner Saturday night in the homey atmosphere of the 1861 House on South Grand.

Following an excellent

dinner which will be long remembered by all, Maurice Donnell, President of the local, welcomed the diners and guests and expressed the hope that many more functions would be planned and as enthusiastically enjoyed. Donn Hackett from Lundberg branch acted as toastmaster and introduced Geo. Nader and "Rocky" Stone, International Representatives.

Following their remarks Don Falor, Sub Regional Director outlined a tentative program for support of the GM strike by non-GM locals.

One of the treats of the evening's program was the showing of the picture "United Action," a documented story of the national General Motors tool and die strike.

Jack Holt, from Flint, newly elected Regional Director of UAW-CIO and member of

See ZELLER, Page 2

Richardson Says:

President Is Sacrificing Democracy

History will reveal Truman as one of the weakest presidents we've ever had, according to R. E. Richardson, president of Olds Local 652. He states:

"President Truman has sacrificed the principles of democracy and aligned himself with the lawless corporations who would deny labor the right of organization. His proposed program would mean the end of collective bargaining."

"The president has a s

See PRESIDENT, Page 5

Big Party For Pickets Friday Night

An evening of entertainment and dancing has been arranged for General Motors pickets at the Lansing CIO Council hall for this Friday night, Dec. 7.

Admission will be free. Just show your picket card from Fisher Local 602 or Olds Local 652.

The party starts at 9 p.m. and includes a large floor show. In it will be the Norman English String Trio with Joyce Dixon, song stylist and specialty entertainer; Frankie Parker, "the Bing Crosby of central Michigan"; and Benny Williams, with his electric guitar.

Posters advertising the event mysteriously hint about a surprise number listed as "our 5th Wheel".

Steven Gmazel and Bill Ingram, Fisher strike committeemen who arranged the party, said they hoped it would meet with general favor and warrant continuing with parties each Friday to which all CIO members in Lansing could ultimately be invited. They said limited facilities at the Council hall made that impossible this time, so it is restricted to pickets.

The entertainment and music is donated by the Drake Refinery and the Norman English Studios.

READ IT!

President Truman's proposal is discussed pro and con by Clyde Perkins, president of the Lansing CIO Council in an article on page 5.

Lansing Labor Asks

Why Didn't Truman Ask General Motors To Negotiate Wages?

First reaction to President Truman's proposal to labor this week was unfavorable among Lansing union members and officials.

They point out that the president has asked General Motors workers to return to their jobs without compelling General Motors to negotiate their wage demands.

They point out further that the union exhausted every possible resource to compel negotiation before striking and that the President had nothing to say about the continued stalling of General Motors.

They say that if he had taken action to compel the corporation to live up to the spirit of the law that provides for bargaining there might not have been a strike.

About the president's proposed fact-finding committee, they cite reasons why labor would probably have no faith in it.

The government months ago had a fact-finding committee investigate the wage situation and this committee reported that a general increase of 24 percent was easily possible throughout industry without raising prices and was necessary if the average worker's standard of living was to be sustained.

Furthermore, local labor officials emphasized, the president himself confirmed this committee's findings by saying in a radio speech that wages could be raised without raising prices.

Then — and this is the point of the matter, they say — he did not do another thing about it. President Truman did not demand that General Motors, the world's richest corporation, prove why it could not raise wages without raising prices, as it claimed.

His fact-finding committee did nothing about it. The administration let the matter drop, which forced General Motors employees to strike in order to get action on their case.

It is likely that the men on strike will want to see some definite action compelling General Motors to negotiate before returning to work. That seems to be the sentiment in Lansing union circles.

The whole matter will be thoroughly discussed at a big meeting of union officials in Detroit Sunday.

Montgomery Ward Store Is Picketed

Why the local Montgomery Ward store was picketed for three days last week is explained by Clyde Perkins, president of the Lansing Local of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Workers of America, CIO.

"The purpose was to acquaint the Ward employees of the Lansing store with the union's case by handing out prepared handbills and to acquaint the purchasing public with the facts and to inform all CIO members through picketing that the Ward Company is still unwilling to recognize our union."

"No attempt was made to close the store or to stop the flow of trade through other than suggestive methods," Perkins said.

He said picketing was done with Lansing union members.

BOUGHT THOSE
VICTORY BONDS?

That Christmas Spirit

That C.I.O. guy is out of work — laid off — on strike — sick — savings gone — two kids — maybe three or four or more — no Christmas for them — what shall we do about it?

Is it the spirit of giving or the spirit of receiving that you want to enjoy this Christmas? Well? —

Toys — Food — Books — Money — Clothing. Do you have any that we might use to give to lift up a couple of C.I.O. kids? ? ?

IF YOU DO—

Send them, before December 22 to LANSING CIO CHRISTMAS GIFT COMMITTEE, 109 East South St.

Monday Nite

Victor Reuther Will Talk at 2 Locals Here

Next Monday evening Victor Reuther will speak in Lansing before audiences at the halls of two General Motors locals.

At 7:30 p.m. he will address

a group at the Olds Local 652 hall, 1118 S. Washington. At 8:30 he will appear at the Fisher Local 602 hall, 1111 W. St. Joseph St.

Reuther is coordinator of the UAW-CIO Veterans Bureau and will discuss veterans problems. He is a brother of Walter Reuther, UAW-CIO vice-president in charge of the GM division.

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More Strike
Pictures on
Page Six

Lansing View of the Strike General Motors Forced by Refusing to Bargain

Not Shown in Picture Is Behind-the-Scenes Maneuver to Get Men to Work Without Negotiating 30% Increase



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EDITOR — V. E. VANDENBURG

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Regarding Dwight H. Rich, New School Superintendent

Labor can find basis for a great deal of satisfaction in the new superintendent of public schools, Dwight H. Rich, and his proposed program for the development of the usefulness of the city's public school facilities.

It will be remembered that during the school board election last April, labor's candidates advocated extended use of the school facilities by all groups in the community. Labor's candidates were beaten; that in itself is unimportant. The thing that is important is the fact that some of the things that labor advocated as part of the school board's program are now becoming a part of the present school board's program.

Another point that one of our candidates, Roscoe A. Walters, advocated was a program to obtain visual aid equipment and a remedial aid program for backward students. This program, too, is on the way to realization. So, even though candidates lost an election, if they have a program that is for the benefit of the community as a whole, eventually that program is carried out.

Labor, too, was concerned with the appointment of Mr. Rich as Superintendent of Schools, primarily because of his activities in organizing the well remembered vigilance committee back in 1937. Since his appointment, as far as the CIO is concerned, Mr. Rich has been more than fair, cooperative and helpful. Labor appreciates that, and if the CIO can be of any assistance in promoting a community wide school board program, they will undoubtedly be willing to do so.

The education and training of our boys and girls is of prime concern to labor. Labor will do everything possible to take its full responsibility in seeing that any program designed on a community wide basis will succeed.

—H. DEAN REED.

Stop Stepping On It

Since the days of primitive man, the individual has wanted "to get from where he is to where he wants to go", sitting down in a hurry.

Almost universal ownership of automobiles attests to modern Americans insistence upon comfortable, rapid transportation to satisfy this desire.

Sad to relate, however, the automobile, to too many Americans, is not an unmixing blessing. The very speed made available by the automobile, in the hands of persons lacking in prudence and caution, becomes a menace. It is a menace to themselves and other persons on the public streets and highways.

Michigan, the birth state of the automobile, like the rest of the country, has been on an orgy of speeding since gasoline was made procurable in unlimited quantities and speed restrictions were lifted following V-J Day.

Thousands of drivers, the majority of them "in a great hurry going nowhere," have been yielding to the temptation to "step on the gas."

The result has been hundreds killed, thousands injured and sorrow and suffering brought to many homes.

We now are approaching the Yuletide, a time when hearts should be light and everyone joyful. But past Yuletides have been marred by tragedies — many of them caused by drivers speeding, perhaps to a holiday family reunion.

Truly Speed is "The Killer."

The Automobile Insurers Safety Association, working in conjunction with the Michigan State Police, the Michigan Safety Council and the Michigan State Highway Department, is conducting an educational campaign to help cut down the accident toll.

We all would do well to heed their admonitions.

ZELLER

(Continued from Page 1)

the International Executive Board addressed the banquet and stressed the significance of the General Motors strike.

His plea for understanding and support of the GM strike brought enthusiastic applause.

Jack Zeller, Educational Director of the UAW and principle speaker, told the group:

"The big educational job ahead of us is the job of educating our own people first and then using our knowledge to the betterment of ourselves and all the community."

"The lack of college and university training of thou-

sands of our people does not limit the opportunity for a broad educational program—rather, the opportunity is broadened.

"The tremendously important job of educating ourselves on collective bargaining must also be buttressed by a forceful and acceptable program of political action. These are two important factors which we must recognize in an educational program. Without them we cannot win."

Clayton Carpenter, Regional staff member of the UAW Educational Department, spoke briefly. The arrangements committee is appreciative of his splendid contribution to the program in

PEARL HARBOR POLKA



PLAIN TALK

From Our Readers

Expressions herein will not always reflect the policies or views of this paper or any UAW-CIO local. Mail articles to P. O. Box 657.

THE CHURCH EDITORIAL

Congratulations to you upon the timely editorial by Mr. H. Dean Reed in last week's issue of your paper. It is absolutely true that the Churches and Labor have much in common and should understand each other's position. You are right in saying "few labor leaders wear horns and most of the clergy are not stuffed shirts."

Certainly it is the business of the Church to define and defend the principles of Christ and point the way to a social order which is in accordance with those principles. The Church can do no less than insist upon the application of the Christian ethic to the economic order. We trust that no disservice will be done to human progress by the misuse of power by either organized labor or management, or by the indifference of the Church to industrial and economic injustice in human relationships. Christians in Management and Labor should be able to find some common ground for intelligent and friendly cooperation.

In these critical days it is imperative that everything possible be done to promote goodwill and understanding that justice may obtain among all groups.

It is most unfortunate that the Christmas Season of 1945 is so overshadowed by the conflict of clashing powers in the industrial world. The celebration of the anniversary of the birth of the Babe in Bethlehem, who was Himself to become a Carpenter in Nazareth, should remind us again of the dignity of labor and of the desire of God that peace and happiness should be the common experience of all men among whom there is goodwill.

Cordially yours,
D. Stanley Coors

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Labor News is pleased to hear from Rev. Coors of the Central Methodist Church. His was one of the first comments received on last week's editorial by Dean Reed.

making available the picture "United Action." Also to George Baker of Olds local goes the thanks of the committee for his valuable assistance.

CIO Backs President's Health Insurance Plan

CIO Pres. Philip Murray this week praised President Truman's newly announced Federal health program, pointing out that the CIO is already on record in support of it, including provisions for national compulsory health insurance and for insurance against loss in pay due to illness.

The program drew immediate opposition from the American Medical Assn. which branded it as "socialized medicine"—a charge specifically denied by the President. The program was supported by the liberal Physicians Forum, which pointed out that tens of thousands of doctors soon will be returning to civilian practice.

"Now," said the Forum, "is the right moment to set up such a system of national health insurance which will permit an equitable distribution of doctors throughout the country, before these young men flock to the cities, leaving vast stretches of the country unprotected."

President Truman, in noting that 30 percent of those inducted for military service had been rejected, declared that the nation cannot afford such a record and said that health security must be made available to all—"regardless of residence, station or race."

Among actions he urged were:

1. Construction of hospitals and other health facilities with Federal aid and with minimum standards of operation to be set by the Federal government.
2. Expansion of public health, maternal and child health services, with larger Federal aid.
3. A broad Federal program to stimulate medical research and education.

Under a cost equivalent to about 4 percent of the nation's pay roll, the system should provide for dental as well as medical care, the President said.

In discussing prepayment of medical costs by a compulsory insurance system that would protect virtually every person in the nation, President Truman said that only 3 to 4 percent of the population is protected now by sickness insurance. "A system of required prepayment would not only spread the costs of medical care; it would also prevent much serious disease," the President declared. "Since medical bills would be paid by the insurance fund, doctors would more often be consulted when the first signs of disease occur instead of when the disease has become serious."

Truman said that provisions of the plan would not restrict freedom of professional choice either of patients or physicians. "The removal of financial barriers between patient and doctor would enlarge the present freedom of choice," he pointed out.

The points outlined in the President's message have been incorporated in a bill introduced by Sen. Wagner (D. N. Y.) and Rep. Dingle (D. Mich.).



State CIO Conventions

GEORGIA: Charles H. Gilman was re-elected president of the Georgia CIO Council at the sixth annual convention held at Athens, Ga., Nov. 3-4. The convention voted to enlarge the executive board to include a member from each affiliated international union and set up a state strike fund, and mapped out an intensive organizing drive.

MINNESOTA: Walter Smith was elected president of the Minnesota CIO Council at the eighth annual convention held in Minneapolis Nov. 9-11. He succeeds Sander Genis, who declined to run after serving three successive years.

Rodney C. Jacobson, who was named secretary-treasurer by the executive board last April upon the resignation of Leonard Lageman, was elected without opposition. The convention adopted an extensive legislative program and backed the stand of the National CIO on a number of important issues. One resolution urged an "unrelenting struggle against the evils and dangers" of Catholic-baiting, Jew-baiting, Negro-baiting, alien-baiting and other group discriminations that go hand in hand with labor-baiting.

CONNECTICUT: Kermit Eby, National CIO director of research and education, was one of the leading speakers at the convention of the Connecticut CIO Council held at New Haven Nov. 17-18, along with Lt. Gov. Wilbert Snow, U.S. Sen. Brion McMahon, chairman of the Senate committee on atomic energy, and Thomas F. Burns assistant to the chairman of the CIO-PAC.

Another Huge Egg Crop Is Feared for '46

A two day conference, December 12 and 13, has been announced by Charles Figy, Director of the State Department of Agriculture, at which time plans for handling Michigan's 1946 egg crop will be thoroughly discussed.

It has been estimated that

unless heavy culling of the laying flocks take place, the egg production during the first half of 1946 may be nearly as great as in 1945.

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We've all agreed that his future interests us—that we have an obligation here. Loans, education, a chance for a decent job—they're not too much to give a man who had the tough end of this war.
The way to discharge your obligation to this fellow is to buy extra Bonds in the Victory Loan. And the nice part of it is that, when you do this, you're taking care of another fellow's future, too.

You're making sure that you, yourself, will have a financial anchor to windward. You're putting your money to work, earning more money for you. You're making sure you'll have extra cash, in a few short years, for the things you want.
For the ex-soldier's sake, and for your own, buy all the Victory Bonds you can.

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FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE

—Federated Pictures

Their banners protesting foreign suppression of Indonesian fight for freedom, 177 Indonesia seame who walked off Dutch ships rather than carry arms to be used against their people march to surrender to immigration authorities in New York. If deported, they face imprisonment as enemies of Dutch rule of their country.

GENERAL MOTORS EMPLOYEES
AT REO, PLEASE NOTICE

By RAYMOND REED
Pres. Reo Local 650

It has been called to our attention that Reo intends to hire some of the GM employees who are now out on strike, whose skill would qualify them for a job in our higher skilled classifications, providing we have no one with seniority layed off in these departments or on the Master List who have the ability and skill required to perform these jobs, such as First Class Designers, Pattern Makers, Draftsmen, etc.

These employees must be Union Members in good standing and it is mandatory that they report immediately after hire to their respective Local Union Presidents, Bro. Robert Richardson of Oldsmobile Local 652 at the Local Union Hall, 1118 S. Washington Avenue, and Bro. Webb Ewing of Fisher Body Local No. 602 at 1111 W. St. Joe Street.

Both of these Local Unions are willing to see their members avail themselves of the opportunity of acquiring jobs in other Local Union Shops while their Local Union is out on strike, providing they conform and abide by the rules of their Local Unions governing such cases. Rules that I am sure no good Union member would hesitate to agree to.

If you are not willing to abide by the rules adopted by your own respective Locals governing its members who are working out in other plants during the strike, then I can assure you there is no place in Reo Local No. 650 for you.

The Management of Reo Motors, Inc. is cooperating with us one hundred per cent in the hiring of these employees and have agreed to see that we receive a report immediately on every one of these hires.

REO BONUS

(Continued from Page 1)

istered mail to the last known address.

"It is understood that as in past years, employees who left the Company either voluntarily or who were released for cause, prior to December 1, 1945 will not participate in the bonus.

"Employees who left our employ to enter the Armed Services will receive a bonus of 2% of their earnings during the bonus period upon receipt of a signed certification of service. As in the past, a letter will be mailed to these employees, together with a blank form for the certification."

If you have changed your address since you were laid off as of V-J Day or August 15, 1945 due to termination or cancellation of government contracts and have not notified the Management or Personnel Department as to the change, then do so immediately, so there will be no question of your not receiving the registered letter that is to be mailed to you at your last known address along with the form that will be necessary for you to fill out and have notarized and returned to Management on or before the expiration date of all bonus claims, February 1, 1946.

Buy Victory Bonds

VETERANS COMPENSATION

(Continued from Page 1)

would give him earnings credits of \$160 per month for every month served in the armed forces, the veteran on strike is out of luck, even in the four states that do pay benefits to strikers. Thus, in New York and other states the veteran in a struck plant will be worse off than the non-veteran.

The Ford Worker, including veterans, and the workers and veterans employed at other auto plants affected by the General Motors strike, but not directly on strike, are eligible and should be given either G. I. benefits or state unemployment compensation benefits.

COMPENSATION FOR CORPORATION

The corporation's plans for carrying out its program of starving the workers and veterans into submission, is aided by the greatest strike fund in history, given to General Motors by the carry-back provisions of the federal tax law. The government is compensating corporations for creating unemployment, while denying compensation to veterans and workers threatened with hunger.

Whatever the outcome of the strike, General Motors can't lost. The corporation is protected by the carry-back provisions of the federal tax laws and by a vast accumulation of wartime profits.

U. S. PAYS G. M. LOSSES

Under the existing tax laws General Motors can recover from the U. S. treasury a large proportion of the amounts paid in wartime taxes. In the event of a net loss this year or next, General Motors may claim a refund from the treasury of part or all of the \$200,000,000 of normal income taxes it has paid during two years. In the event G. M. profits before taxes fall below \$220,000,000 during this year or next, it can claim refunds from the U. S. treasury up to a maximum of \$160,000,000 in two years.

The carry-back provision of the tax law was justified by the argument that the corporation needed such funds for reconversion. Whatever the merits of this argument, the American people never intended such public money to be used for strike-breaking.

LEGISLATION IS ASKED

The UAW-CIO calls upon the Michigan legislature, which begins a special session in January of 1946, to amend the state unemployment compensation act to permit payment of unemployment compensation to all men out of work. Pending passage of such legislation, we call upon the governor of Michigan to use the \$57,000,000 kitty for veterans in the state treasury to clothe and house veterans out of work as a result of this General Motors blitz.

We call upon congress to immediately pass the Wagner bill, S. 1813, which would give earnings credits of \$160 per month for every month of service in the armed forces to every veteran.

We call upon congress to repeal that section of the G. I. Bill of Rights which denies unemployment benefits to G. I.'s who are on strike.

We call upon the congress of the United States to amend the tax laws to stop providing union-busting corporations with strike funds through the carry-back provisions of the tax laws. Companies engaged in breaking strikes should not be permitted to charge off losses incurred by such strikes against carry-back credits.

There are many gaps in the program for aiding the returned veteran. This gap in unemployment benefits is one that must have immediate attention.

HOLD STEEL VOTE IN RAIN

Because management claimed a strike vote held on company property would interfere with production, a tent was erected at Johnstown, Pa., to vote. That didn't cut down size of vote though. Workers backed demand of United Steelworkers (CIO), for \$2 daily wage increase by vote of 5 to 1.

—Federated Pictures

Housing Vets
Problem In
Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES (FP)—"Los Angeles now faces a housing disaster as extensive as though an earthquake had destroyed 135,000 homes. Returning veterans are desperate, thousands of families are living in primitive makeshift shacks without sanitary facilities, threatening the community with epidemics."

This warning came from the Los Angeles Citizens Housing Council, including AFL, CIO, civic and religious organizations, in a demand for action to relieve the emergency. "The situation is further complicated," the council said, "by the threatened eviction of 23,000 families in a strike against the OPA by the Apartment House Owners Assn."

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Union Police Given Penalty

ST. LOUIS (FP)— The municipal government's union-busting drive aimed at Local 549, American Federation of State County & Municipal Employees (AFLE), went into high gear when City Counselor George L. Stemmler held that formation of a union among police employees was illegal and called on the Board of Police Commissioners to take disciplinary action against those men who have joined the local.

In a double-edged statement issued at the behest of the board, Stemmler said that the "banding together of policemen in a labor union is so foreign that it is the duty of the board to take the position that membership in a labor union is just ground for disciplinary action as outlined in the police manual."

While admitting that the union's charter forbade a strike, he stated that permission to form a union would pose an "incipient threat against the people."

At police rollcalls, the men were told to answer three questions in a written report. The questions were: (1) Are you a member of Local 549? (2) Did you participate in any manner in organizing such a union? (3) Did any member of the department request you to join the union and, if so, state name of person who made such a request.

Patrolman Richard T. Miller, acting chairman of the local, and Roderick MacDonald, organizer, instructed all union members, estimated at 1,500, to follow one of two courses: To stand on their constitutional rights and refuse to testify against themselves, or to assert they were guided by a public statement of Mark D. Eagleton, president of the Board of Police Commissioners, that police have a right to join a union.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

With IRVING RICHTER

Intl. Legislative Representative, UAW-CIO

THE HEAT IS ON

One hour after the G. M. strike began, the house rules committee voted to report out the Hobbs anti-labor bill and the revised Smith-Connally bill.

This was what American monopoly — and probably General Motors — was counting on. They wanted the strike, to push through long-prepared anti-labor laws. Republican Representatives Woodruff, Jonkman, Michener and Hoffman lost no time in blasting the strike and organized labor, relying chiefly on the time-worn red bogey. And Rankin reminded the house that he had a bill which would permit servicemen to be used as strikebreakers.

VETERANS AS STRIKEBREAKERS

I also learned that a representative of the Automobile Manufacturers association had advised some members of congress that General Motors was planning to use servicemen as strikebreakers.

Labor's friends in congress have not been idle, though none of the five Wayne county Democrats has yet risen on the floor to defend the workers. Representative Hook of Michigan stated the issues clearly and forcefully, when on November 23 he told the house:

"The refusal of General Motors Corporation to bargain in good faith with the U. A. W. on its wage demands constitutes one of the most flagrant examples in American industrial history of the arrogant contempt of great corporations for government policy, for their workers and for public opinion . . . General Motors is hell-bent for inflation."

THE RIGHT TO WORK

Representatives Coffee (Wash.), Savage (Wash.), De Lacy (Wash.), have all spoken on the floor in opposition to the labor-baiters. And Republican Representative Ramey of Toledo, Ohio, surprised the House on November 23 by supporting Rep. Hook, while Michener again beat his breast about the "innocent Michigan citizens (being) deprived of the right to earn a livelihood."

Michener, and other corporation spokesmen, seem to worry about the right to work only during a strike. But they'll fight to the death against the Full Employment Bill, which gives labor the right to work on a year-round basis.

WORKERS AND FARMERS

Representative Charles Savage (Dem., Wash.) made a splendid speech showing the joint interest of workers and farmers in the question of high wages. Said Savage:

"Since the level of wages and salaries determines how much Americans can buy, and at what price, every farmer has a stake in labor's fight for substantial wage-salary increases now."

Representative Hugh De Lacy of Washington showed how much a progressive Congressman can do to help labor, by voluntarily appearing before the Rules Committee to protest bringing the Hobbs Bill to the floor. He pointed out to the Rules Committee that it shouldn't be brought to the floor because no hearings had been held on the measure. Not only did he appear before the Rules Committee, but he sent a letter to a large number of leaders all over the United States, dated October 30, warning them of the danger in this bill.

THE DEMOCRATOC PARTY OFFICIAL LEADERSHIP IS MAKING NO MOVE TO STOP THE LEGISLATION. MAJORITY LEADER McCORMACK DOESN'T DARE CALL A DEMOCRATIC PARTY CAUCUS BECAUSE HE IS AFRAID THE POLL TAX DEMOCRATS WILL RUN AWAY WITH THE BALL; THE WORK AGAINST THE BILLS IS BEING DONE BY AN INFORMAL CAUCUS.

The real meaning of the new Smith-Connally bill is not only that it seeks to cripple unions, but to kill all independent political action. The Congressional Tories are afraid of the independent political power of labor and progressives; afraid that this political strength will weaken the powerful hold which the NAM now has gotten on the Congress of the United States.

THE TIME HAS COME FOR EVERY MEMBER OF CONGRESS TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED. BUT THE TIME HAS ALSO COME FOR EVERY CIO LOCAL AND EVERY CIO MEMBER TO WRITE AND WIRE HIS CONGRESSMAN DEMANDING THAT HE BE PRESENT ON THE FLOOR AND THAT HE WORK, SPEAK AND VOTE AGAINST THE ANTI-LABOR LAWS AND FOR LABOR'S LEGITIMATE DEMANDS.

Get your Mayor, city councilmen, churchmen, veterans' organizations, prominent citizens and civic groups in your communities to speak up. Ask them to send wires and resolutions to their Congressmen, demanding that they smash the anti-labor laws and bring out the true facts in the present industry sit-down.

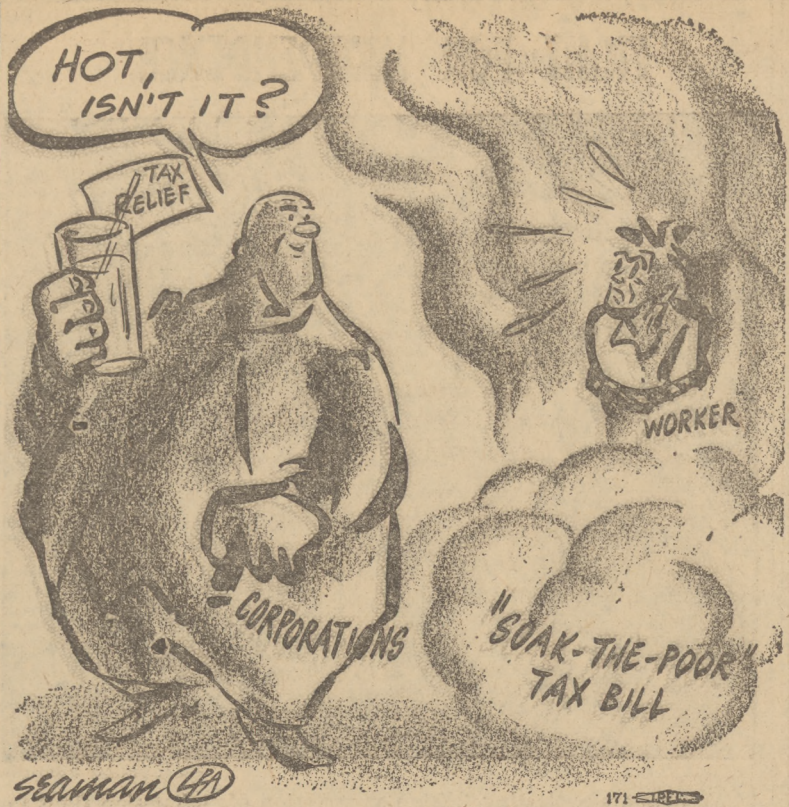
DANGEROUS THOUGHTS

While beating down labor, the Congressional Tories hope to divert the public, and split labor, by a brand new red-hunt by the House "Un-American" Committee.

"The only 'un-American' activities we know of are those forbidden by law and can be taken care of in the courts. We are not ready to prosecute people for 'dangerous thoughts' in America." (Social Action News-Letter, Nov. 1945, published by the United Christian Missionary Society, Indianapolis, Indiana)

OAKDALE, Calif. (FP) — An echo of the bad old days comes from this San Joaquin valley town.

The Oakdale Employers association has been formed with the avowed intention of preventing the A. F. of L. from "trying to unionize the town".



Coop Hospital Is Organized

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CLNS)

Two hundred farmers and townsmen met in the high school auditorium at Pelican Rapids, Minnesota recently to take steps to organize a cooperative hospital and medical center to serve Pelican Rapids and surrounding communities. This will bring up to ten, the number of cooperative hospitals organized or in the process of formation in the United States and will provide the second cooperative hospital in Minnesota. The first one in the state was organized at Two Harbors, a year ago by a group of railroad employees.

A modern hospital and medical center, to be operated as a cooperative on a prepayment basis, will be built at a cost of \$100,000. The institution will provide hospital and medical care and will engage a competent staff of doctors and technicians. The institution was incorporated under the name of Pelican Valley Health Center and is to be capitalized at a quarter of a million dollars. Membership will be \$50 per family. It is expected that construction will commence in the late winter or early spring.

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Our heroic dead have left us a legacy—and a trust. To us they have given the knowledge that free men will fight, and die, to preserve that freedom, not only for themselves but also for those who come after them.

To us, too, they leave the solemn duty of making certain that America will remain spiritually, economically and finan-

cially sound . . . truly a land of freedom and opportunity for little children, rich and poor, in a world at peace.

Think of those who fought and died—and then join with a generous heart and an open pocketbook in this last great Victory Loan.* The money we lend will help to lay the groundwork of a finer, better America. It's our last great fight. Let's stand shoulder to shoulder till it's won.



* Following the Victory Loan, the sale of E. F. & G. U. S. Savings Bonds will continue through regular authorized agencies and through the Payroll Savings Plan.

"SAY 'THANKS' WITH VICTORY BONDS!"

MOTOR WHEEL CORP.

FACTS

The UAW STORY

BACK HOME TO WHAT?

In the next ten months 100,000 veterans will return to their jobs in the automobile industry. Already, tens of thousands of veterans of Normandy and Midway, and the Coral Sea, are back, punching the clocks in our factories.

Yes, hundreds of thousands of veterans are coming back. Coming back to what? What does industry offer these men to whom we all owe so much? What have they to look forward to as auto workers?

VETS

The sad fact is that the auto industry now offers returning enlisted men "take-home" pay that may actually fall short of providing the economic security and living standards they have in the Army.

Of course, hamburger cooked at home tastes better than any army chow. But that is no excuse for failing to provide the pay that would mean steak and apple pie, and enough orange juice for the kids.

DESERVE

The veteran who returns to the auto plants in 1945 and 1946 must be assured a better future than was the lot of the boy who came back in 1919 and 1920.

Wage cuts, inhuman speedups, layoffs and the nightmare spectacle of headlines... these dark shadows must not cloud the future of the men who fought and won for us. The UAW-CIO's full resources are thrown into the fight to assure that better future.

BETTER

The problem of the veteran's future cannot be separated from the problem of the future of every worker in the auto industry.

Any returning serviceman will tell you he asks no special favors. He wants that every worker wants. He wants fair wages for a secure job where he can use all his skills and develop new ones. He wants a chance to raise a family, with the assurance that his "take-home" pay will provide for his children the kind of food, housing, medical care and education that are the birthright of every American child. He wants no industrial turmoil, but he will resent attempts to transfer to civilian life the mass hat arrogance and selfishness of which he's already seen far too much.

FUTURE

Let's open the door to the veteran's future! We have the key in the UAW-CIO program for realistic improvement of his employment rights and maintenance of his "take-home" pay. For future prosperity for the veteran, for every worker, for the whole city of Lansing, the UAW-CIO's fight against cuts in "take-home" pay must bring victory.

The fight for jobs at fair wages for all our veterans must and shall be won!

AUTO WORKERS' TAKE-HOME PAY

KEEPS ALL LANSING WORKING

UAW-CIO

Westinghouse Starts Drive Against Union

NEW YORK (FP)—Fresh proof of industry's renewed drive to hamstring unions with restrictive legislation came to light here in a proposed law abolishing the Wagner act—labor's Magna Carta—circumvented in business circles by Westinghouse Electric Co.

The giant electrical monopoly, which has forced its 100,000 employees into a threat of strike action by refusing along with General Electric and General Motors the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers (CIO) demand for a \$2 daily wage increase, is apparently drumming up support for its legal blockbust as a reserve blow against the union.

Proposals in the Westinghouse bill are an employer's dream of "satisfactory" labor-management relations. The Wagner act would be re-

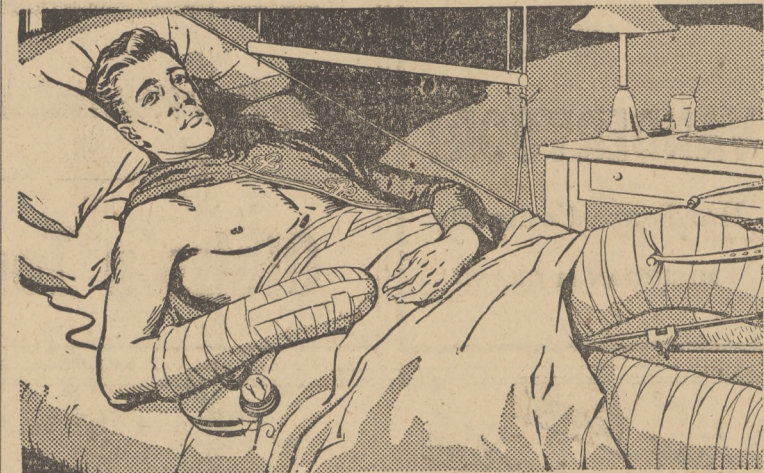
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pealed and the NLRB scrapped in favor of a 6-man general board. Employees' right to join a union and bargain collectively is recognized but thereafter virtually all the rights belong to the employer.

One dynamite-loaded section grants employers "the right to manage their own plants and properties, choose their own employees, discharge their own employees and enjoy full freedom of speech."

Behind these "constitutional rights", of course, lies the wish to be free to fire union leaders, discriminate in hiring and propagandize workers against unions.

Workers, on the other hand, may not use the right of boycott, "make, publish or issue misleading or untrue statements about the business activities or operations of an employer" or "promote strikes when an employer is abiding by a decision of the board or referee on the issue in dispute other than the issue of closed shop, maintenance of membership, check-off or compulsory arbitration."

The board itself is forbidden "to impose upon employers a closed shop, maintenance of membership, check-off, compulsory arbitration, or any other obligations which are inconsistent with the fundamental rights guaranteed by the constitution" or "to interfere with freedom of speech."

In other words, unions would be permitted to do anything but build and strengthen their organization and improve the working conditions of their members—if Westinghouse and the other big corporations dominating the U. S. can tie Congress to their purse strings.

PRESIDENT
(Continued from Page 1)
shown inability to recognize the many problems confronting the American people and has shown marked weakness in his appointments. An example is his secretary of state, Byrnes, who is anti-Catholic, anti-labor, anti-Jew, anti-Negro and anti-everything democratic and constructive.

The President's Plan - Good or No Good?

BY CLYDE PERKINS
Pres., Lansing CIO Council

This is written immediately after President Truman's special message to Congress on Monday, December 3, 1945, and his request to the G.M. strikers to return to work.

The story may be more thoroughly covered before this issue reaches you, but here are some ideas for serious thought.

The request to Congress asking that legislation be enacted to set up a fact finding board and enable it to have some definite powers is not a new approach, necessarily. However, let's review the pro and con of the proposal as suggested by the President.

FOR
1—Facts are what UAW-CIO Vice President Reuther has been asking for and any honest labor union does want.

FOR
2—The public wants the facts, too. Unions have requested that the public be acquainted with the real facts in many instances.

FOR
3—There is much merit in the time limitation of 30 days total after certification of a dispute to a fact finding committee.

FOR
4—An impartial fact-finding board could be of immense help to the economy and public welfare of the nation.

FOR
5—The power to subpoena individuals and records is a definite step toward fact finding.

FOR
6—The use of such legislation sparingly is good and tends to lessen the thought of curbing democratic action by unions involved in minor disputes.

In the interests of this nation and its economic and democratic welfare, any approach which can help in the favorable solution to major industrial disputes is of the utmost value. To do that and still maintain all the basic constitutional freedoms is a job.

I am positive that a fact finding board set up without legislation will be unacceptable to General Motors Corporation. Perhaps in the final analysis such an act of Congress will be frowned upon by either labor or industry or

by both. I sincerely believe that such an act as suggested would be of much more benefit in the long run to labor than that suggested in the Hatch, Burton, Ball bill. If our labor leaders could present a case and can get our legislative assemblies to listen we may be able to attain a goal that we all sincerely want—A maximum of industrial peace.

However, there is little doubt in my mind that most of the so-called peace legislation introduced will be of no avail until the spirit of partisanship in Congress is stifled.

Cooperative Housing Is Gaining Now

BY JOHN CARSON
Washington Rep., The Cooperative League

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The crucial hour for cooperative housing in the post war period begins here this week. The door to credit resources which are necessary to successful cooperative housing projects has been pushed open—not wholly—but partially.

The Senate committee on Banking and Currency will begin its consideration of the Wagner-Ellender-Taft housing bill in which provision is made for mutual, or cooperative housing. For the first time in history, an opportunity is offered to consumers to begin to attack the housing problem.

In the legislation which is now proposed are two provisions which are encouraging. If they are adopted, with some amendments which will be proposed, cooperative insurance companies will have the opportunity to invest their funds in mutual or cooperative housing projects and with the security of government insured mortgages. The two provisions are as follows:

1. Where new houses are needed in a city and for families with "lower incomes", mutual or cooperative associations, and mortgages insured up to other builders may have

90 percent of an entire project.

2 Mutual housing corporations may have mortgages insured up to 95 percent of an entire project when occupancy of the houses is restricted to members of the corporation and where the government decides there is need for housing.

The bill also gives to the Secretary of Agriculture broad authority to promote the development of adequate

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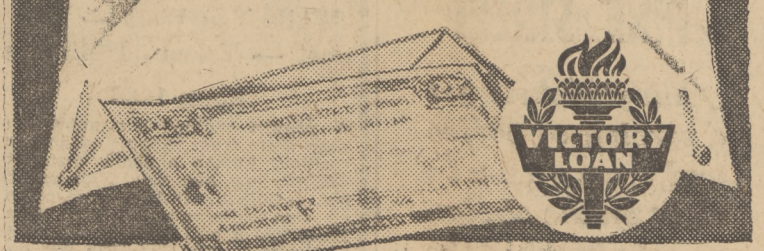
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GM Strike May Avert Crash and Depression

The time to avert a crash is before it occurs.
But some folks aren't wise even after the event.
The CIO is working almost single-handed today to avert another economic crash, another depression like that of the 1930's, which resulted from the mistakes made following the first world war.

It is doing this through the wage demands of its unions. It is doing it by forcing the wage issue to national attention, at the Labor-Management Conference, and in every other way it can. It is doing it, yes, through the General Motors strike.

The depression of the 1930's resulted from too-low wages and too-high profits. Between 1924 and 1929,

factory workers' wages rose only 5 percent, though their productivity increased 24 percent. Meanwhile profits rose 72 percent.

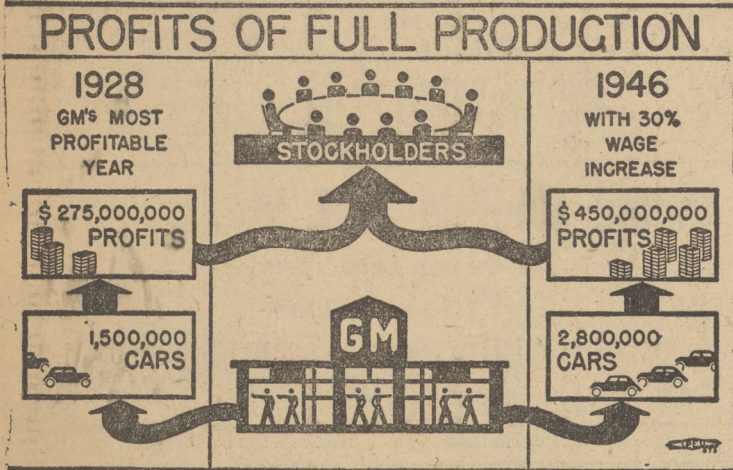
Too much money was taken out of our economic bloodstream in profits. Too little was left for the purchasing power of the people. Unemployment grew, and America's worst crash followed.

Is history to repeat itself? Wage rates were frozen during the war below the level of increased living costs. Take-home pay has since been deeply slashed by loss of overtime. Meanwhile profits are rising to the dizzy levels in history.

Substantial wage increases are immediately necessary to avert another crash. They are possible without general price increases, and without cutting too deeply into record profits.

Government figures assembled by the CIO show that industry can raise wages 31 percent and still earn 100 percent more take-home profits after taxes than in 1936-39; and that, taking into account increased productivity, it can raise wages 38 percent and still double its take-home profits in 1946 over prewar years.

The CIO is leading the fight not only for labor but for all the American people when it insists on immediate and substantial wage increases to protect our country against the present economic trends, which otherwise will lead us straight to another major depression.



Strike Action Scenes at Oldsmobile Entrances



DIVISION ST.

A long line effectively blocks this important rear entrance to the plant.



ELM STREET

The picket captain punches out the pickets on their cards at the end of a four hour shift.



LOGAN BRIDGE

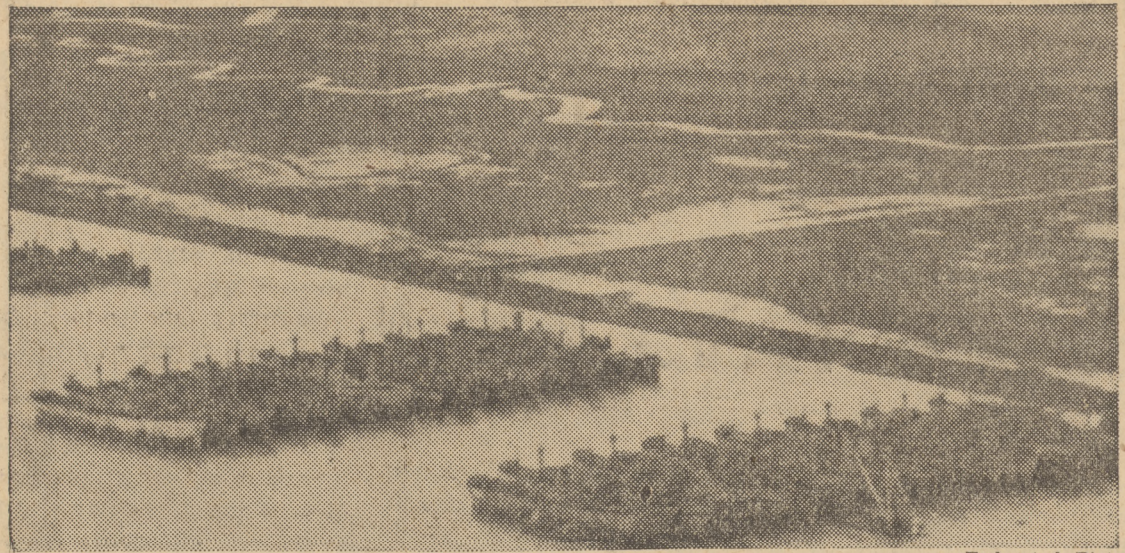
Even the railroad entrances are well covered. This one is under the Logan Street bridge.



PINE STREET

Chilly pickets get a serving of coffee and doughnuts right on the job, later get a lunch at the hall.

THESE IDLE SHIPS COULD BRING GI'S HOME



At this War Shipping Administration graveyard in Suisun Bay, near San Francisco, lie over a hundred Liberty ships and tankers which could be refitted to bring troops home. While eligible GI's grow desperate overseas, these ships are scrapped. Labor demands that WSA make every ship a troopship to bring the boys home now.

30% With No Price Raise; But Union Will Take Less If Figures Show the Need

WASHINGTON (FP)—General Motors hasn't "a chance to break this strike." Those words were publicly uttered here November 29 by G. M. Director Walter P. Reuther of the United Auto Workers (C. I. O.) and underscored by U. A. W. President R. J. Thomas.

The two U. A. W. officers discussed the nation-wide strike of the auto union against America's largest and most profitable corporation at a press conference in which both agreed that the "union did not want this strike. It was forced upon us but we can hold out as long as necessary to win. We did not come down to Washington to ask the government to bail us out."

Thomas and Reuther also declared that UAW strategy was to keep all other auto manufacturers operating at capacity during the GM strike and they expected to do so unless blocked by an industry conspiracy. Both declared there were signs of such a conspiracy to force other strikes on the union, but they excluded the Ford Motor Co. from this charge.

Reuther said the union's demand was not "30% or else— it is 30% with no price increase, or if the arithmetic shows we can get only 20% without a price increase, we'll take only 20%. We must see the arithmetic.. and if it proves we can't get a penny increase, we won't take a penny. If we can get higher wages only through higher auto prices to the consumer, we won't take an increase."

The officials said the arithmetic of GM's books proves it could have given a 30% increase to workers in the period 1936-41 and still made a net, after taxes, profit of 13%. Instead, they said, GM made a net of 17%.

In answer to a question, Reuther said GM "would like to smash the UAW. But there is not a chance. We are stronger and more united than ever before." Thomas agreed with his vice-president that this was true.

Reuther commented further, saying "we whipped GM in 1936-37; and again when they questioned our majority in 1939. We are in a much better position now than we were then. Hell will really freeze over before they lick us. This is not a leadership strike!"

"The longer it goes on, the

more dealers GM will lose." The two UAW officers said they hoped GM would realize its obligation to the public and the nation and resume negotiations with the union.

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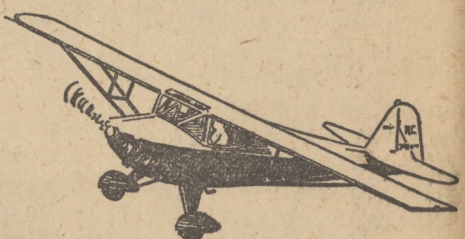
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