

LADIES AUXILIARY REPRESENTATIVE "BAWLS OUT" MEMBERS OF UNION

The UAW-CIO OSHAWORKER

United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement
Workers of America, Local 222, Oshawa

VOL. 2, NO. 7



OSHAWA, ONT.

APRIL 17, 1944

Labor Political Conference Calls for Widest Unity

Working people and farmers in Ontario Riding should be prepared to take an active part in the federal election when the King ministry calls a Dominion vote. This was the message which highlighted the political action conference sponsored by the Oshawa and District Labor Council held March 30.

Delegates from Oshawa and Ajax unions attended the meeting and adopted proposals which, when carried into life by the local unions, will put political action high on the agenda of every union's activity.

The conference stressed that education was necessary so unionists can distinguish between the various parties and their policies and see which policies will mean post-war security and jobs for all after the war.

Under the chairmanship of W. E. Noble, the resolutions committee, proposed that each union name a political action committee, that it conduct a campaign among the members to prepare themselves for the coming election and that these committees undertake to publicize more generally the activity of the labor movement both in the union and the general press.

"This war and the depression before it, has taught the working people that they must make themselves heard in the halls of our legislative chambers if their welfare is to be promoted," part of the resolution adopted said. "The next parliament of Canada will have to deal with post-war reconstruction. The job parliament does will depend on the kind of men and women the people elect in the next election.

"To assure the election of a suitable member of parliament from Ontario Riding, we, the unionists in this riding, must take action now to plan for the coming election."

President Finley Dafoe presided at the meeting. The resolutions committee was composed of W. E. Noble and Harry Benson of Local 222 — U.A.W.A.; Frank Hayward of Local 521, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, Ajax; W. J. Smith, Local 1817, United Steelworkers of America and Sister Mabel Mayne of the Ladies' Auxiliary of Local 222.

Provision was made for a future conference of labor and farm groups and the political labor parties when the election is called by the federal government.

Chides Men For Poor Meeting Turnout

One of the new events in the members' meeting of April 5th was a report from the Women's Auxiliary of the UAW-CIO. This is to be presented quarterly, it is understood. A report of the Chicago Educational conference was also presented. The granting of \$25 to the Canadian - Soviet Friendship Council and appointing of delegates to attend the Ontario Federation of Labor Conference on April 15 and 16 were the main highlights of the meeting.

Mrs. Fleming who delivered the report from the Auxiliary, was unpleasantly surprised, apparently, to find so many of the members absent from the meeting. She gave a good report of the Women's activities for the past year and reported the income at over \$2,000. She said they now have over 140 members but they feel that if the men would insist on their wives joining they would have many more that they could report. She pointed out that there was much more interest in the Auxiliary by the members than in the Union by ITS members if one were to judge from the turnout. She made a moving appeal for more members and said that it rested with the men to get their wives interested.

She also stated that the Women's Auxiliaries in Canada hope to have a special session at the Port Hope Summer School during the latter part of June when the Auto Workers special school is in session.

Grant Funds to Canadian-Soviet Friendship Council

After reading a letter from the Canadian Congress of Labor and concurring with a recommendation from the Executive, \$25 was voted to help Soviet Trade Unionists who have suffered from the war. The letter pointed out the need and that Canadian Unionists should make their help available to fellow trade unionists in the Soviet in this manner.

Ontario Federation of Labor Discussed

On the call for delegates to attend the Ontario Federation of

(Continued on Page 6)

BULLETIN BOARD

April 19, 8 p.m.
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

April 21, 7 p.m.
STEWARDS BANQUET

April 22, 8.30 p.m.
BINGO

April 26, 8 p.m.
LADIES AUXILIARY

April 27, 8 p.m.
ROD AND GUN

April 29, 8.30 p.m.
BINGO

REMEMBER

Hours for Income Tax
calculators

MONDAY through to FRIDAY
7.30 p.m.—10 p.m.

SATURDAY MORNINGS
9.30 a.m.—5 p.m.

Every member in good standing may avail himself of this service at a fee of 50 cents.

Do not forget the building draw . . . Members Meeting . . . April 19. If you have tickets unsold . . . get them disposed of . . . turn in your draw books before the meeting . . . Every member should have three or four of these tickets . . . We own the land, let's get the price of a building . . . This is an easy way to invest in your future job security. . .

Have You Paid

Your

ASSESSMENT?

IT WAS DUE APRIL 1st

Next Deadline: Monday Noon, April 24

THE OSHAWORKER

Published by the Educational
Committee Local 222 UAW-CIO

17½ Simcoe St. N., Oshawa
Editor - William Noble

EDITOR TALKS

With the Victory Loan Drive just around the corner, it would seem appropriate to make a few remarks concerning the Union's view of the matter, what part we play in such a drive and why.

First of all the Committee that will operate in our plant is composed of Labor and Management representatives. Labor of course means leading members of our Union. The canvassers are composed of the Stewards of the Union and the majority of the Stewards are canvassers. These are the people who conduct the drive and, in every sense of the word, it is an Employees' drive, not Gen. Motors Corporation, and is duly recognized as such.

Therefore you can add greatly to the results if you make sure to purchase your bond or bonds from your own canvasser in the shop. Other drives have seen \$70,000 to \$75,000 bought down town by G.M. men perhaps because of a mistaken notion that the GM got credit, in some way, which the purchaser resented. Such of course is not the case.

The objective for the present drive is to be \$800,000 for GM, or about 12½ per cent of payroll. While this seems quite a bit, it is only the same as other plants in this area have done and are going to do again.

Employees of GM and members of our Union in general must not and cannot afford to let any less well paid group of men show us up!

Another group of people who say they cannot afford to buy because they don't intend to work long enough to get "hooked" for higher rates of Income Tax, ought to take time out to have their heads read!

First of all, we've got a war to win! Sure, I know, you say you don't want to do it all alone! That's hooley! How about the boys who've gone across to do our job over there? You old soldiers ought to know what we should do here! Never mind about the baloney about what the other fellow next you is, or is not, doing.

Frankly though half of the tax approximately goes in Savings, which is to be returned and if Victory Bonds aren't a good investment, there isn't any other

PREDIGESTED POISON

Alarm is spreading at the power and prejudices of the Readers Digest with its nine millions circulation in this country plus over a million in foreign language editions. The South American edition—not a duplicate of the home issue—is doing a propaganda job on our Latin neighbors that must greatly please the Axis.

Critics' alarm is based on the fact that Readers Digest is not, as it pretends to be, an impartial digest of current magazines, but has an aggressive policy of its own, a policy all out for reaction and against the administration, against labor, and against world democratic unity.

Many of the predigested offerings are of the "non-controversial" type, and many are just rosy nonsense calculated to keep the reader happy, like a dose of cocaine. But then comes the shot of reactionary poison, slipped in here and there — often written by the Digest's own penmen, or "planted" in the fascistic American Mercury in order to be transplanted to the Digest for real circulation.

A number of radiomen and writers have been exposing this menace, and many self respecting magazines have announced they will boycott the Digest. But millions of unsuspecting readers—including many school children who are fed the Digest as a text—are still taking regular doses of a brew that prepares the mind for acceptance of fascism.

—Ammunition.

that is. Our banks are only safe because they are backed by our government, which, incidentally, is not the Liberal party or the Conservatives or the CFF or any other party or group but all these groups along with You and I. Our bonds are backed by the full resources and the power to produce of the workers and farmers of this whole broad Dominion of Canada.

Why not forget about some of those phoney peevers and put in your regular hours and then turn ALL the money that you will earn extra over to Victory Bonds.

Thus you can kill two birds with one stone, help to defeat the Axis all the quicker and have a nice nest egg for after the war to take a trip, buy a new car, build a new home or start that little business of your own that you've been day dreaming about all these years.

Letters to The Editor

Dear Sir:

Two lines of thought relative to political action were expressed in two different articles in the last issue of the Oshaworker. In one, A. R. Mosher, President of the Canadian Congress of Labor, advocated unions going into politics and sending representatives to our parliaments. "Proper political action" according to the other article by Drummond Wren, UAW Regional Education Director, is for unions to make requesting favorable legislation representations to governments or amendments to existing laws.

In the opinion of the writer, this latter policy of pressure group tactics should not be considered as political action but defined in its true light as lobbying. These two lines of action should be discussed under their proper terms. Both methods have their benefits and both should be adopted by all trade unionists as responsibilities of a democratic society. First that by use of the ballot representatives of the people shall sit in our parliaments and the second that the will of the people shall be known to those who make the laws.

Political action is labor's greatest weapon. Labor governments in the Scandinavian countries, Australia and New Zealand have shown that through political action farmer and labor can enjoy an extremely high standard of living.

Bro. Wren's article was printed in the shop paper of Local 195, Windsor, under the heading "Political Action—NOT Partisan Politics." This attempt to discourage political action is contrary to the policy of the Canadian Congress of Labor which is the legislative body for locals of our union in Canada.

Political action is not something outside our lives which can be taken up like a course of gymnastics. Politics is the life history of our nation and should be the intimate concern of every member. Education is needed, but we need education for enlightenment — not education to confuse.

Yours fraternally,
(Signed) A. G. Shultz.

Don't forget to call the Union Office if anyone is sick or injured in your Department. The Sick and Welfare committee will see that they are extended the Union's sympathy and cheer.

AFTER VICTORY WHAT?

By GEO. BURT

The history of the last few years gives us a right to look to the future with confidence. The democratic peoples of the world have finally gotten together. Moscow, Teheran, Cairo are witnesses of that. Our will to defeat fascism wherever it appears has prevented an appeasers' peace. The more resolutely we take the offensive against our enemies now, the more confidently we can look to the future. A people's war cannot but end in a people's peace.

We Have Resources

We can have employment, security and a decent standard of living for everybody after the war. We have the resources and the industrial machinery to make this possible. For the possible to become the actual, international collaboration and joint action must be continued and labor-government co-operation must be developed.

High Incomes

If the income of the lower-paid brackets is to be raised, the government must be prepared to do a number of things. It must encourage and support collective bargaining, so that the workers can win wage increases and other improvements. It must support the organizations of the small farmer. It must maintain the present taxes on high incomes while at the same time low incomes must be exempted.

Low Cost Housing

The government will have to undertake to supply certain necessities, such as low cost housing, for which private capital has shown its inability to provide. Reforestation and soil conservation also come into this group. Along with these, increased social services, as for example, free medical care, will leave a bigger slice of the pay envelope to be spent on consumers' goods.

Labor's Growth

Our economy has been running in high gear. Thousands of workers have been putting in fifty and sixty hours a week, or more. When war demands have been satisfied it is desirable that these hours be reduced. It would be disastrous, however, if this were accompanied by a sharp drop in earnings. That would invite depression. The trade unions will

(Continued on Page 5)

President Discusses Housing Situation

By A. ELSON

Housing in Oshawa, as elsewhere in Canada, has become an acute problem. That it will become steadily worse, unless direct and definite steps are taken to relieve the situation, goes without saying.

Not only does the shortage of decent dwellings affect the working life of our city, it is a serious handicap to furthering production for the prosecution of the war.

We are reliably informed that every major local industry has made representations to this effect to the Federal government. The Property Owners Association consider the situation very serious, and other public-minded people have loaned support to a plea for more and better housing.

That Labor in Oshawa is behind any move to improve conditions in this respect is well known. We have missed no chance to make it plain where we stand as the matter is vital to our members, many of whom are now seriously cramped in inadequate quarters. Numbers will be compelled to move in the near future, where to, no one knows.

City Council would be well advised to set up a first class committee on housing with ample Labor representation as well as Industry and business.

A survey should be conducted through the plants, by Labor and Management jointly, to find those who would like to build a home on a low cost basis, with government loans at low rates of interest and on a payment as rental plan.

This would be a worthwhile first step and would provide a basis upon which such a committee could begin to work. It would give a clear cut picture of the situation as it stands. Of course allowance would have to be made for the needs of our returning members of the Forces as well.

With these facts thus gathered, it would be much easier to discuss, with sense, an adequate housing project.

Shop Committee Comments

The committee elections have all been run off except the West Plant material handlers and that one will have been held by the time this issue is distributed. The following are the representatives and alternates for the various divisions:

1. Committeeman — A. Jones, Alternate — A. Bramley, Truck Assy. Plant, Truck Body Mounting and Heavy Reject under supervision of W. D. Taylor.

2. Committeeman — M. Linton, Alternate — E. E. Bathe, Tank Line, No. 3 Assembly Line, Wheel Assembly, Rods and Tubing, Plating, Radiator and all departments supervised by H. Coggins.

3. Committeeman — M. Smith, Alternate — Ed. Smith, Stamping N. P. Tool & Die.

4. Committeeman — F. Crome, Alternate — J. T. Freeman, Shipping including North Dock.

5. Committeeman — C. O'Connor, Alternate — W. Brown, North Plant Day Workers.

6. Committeeman — W. E. Umphrey, Alternate — Ethel A. Sanders, War Parts Dept.

7. Committeeman — W. Hayball, Alternate — R. Mitchell, Garnish Moulding, Domestic Parts.

8. Committeeman — Carrie Fudge, Alternate — Kaye Sheridan, Cutting & Sewing.

9. Committeeman — A. Stovell, Alternate — F. Fudger, 45 Body Line, Mill Room, Lumber Yard and Bulkhead Assembly & Press Room.

10. Committeeman — W. Powers, Alternate — J. Smith, Cab Department, Body, Paint and Hardware Line.

11. Committeeman — J. Barron, Alternate — E. Bools, West Plant Tool & Die and Maintenance.

12. Committeeman — J. Kemp, Electric, Gas and Transport Truck Drivers.

13. Committeeman — W. Conibear, Alternate — Isobel Cowan, Fuselage, Framing Bldg., No. 33 1st Floor, Miscellaneous Opera-

UNION ROD & GUN CLUB

Our next regular meeting on April 27th, this being our regular Entertainment night.

Our Entertainment Committee has decided to have an Auction Sale of Fishing Tackle Baits, so if any members have any baits of any description which they would care to part with, here is your chance to dispose of them.

If you have any baits that you have never caught a fish with, bring it down and you will sure get some poor sucker to buy it.

The rules of this sale are that ten per cent of the price of the bait will go to the Club.

We held a sale some time ago and it went over big, so let's go boys! Let's see what you have.

—Keith Vanvolkenburg.

Have You Paid Your ASSESSMENT?

IT WAS DUE APRIL 1st

tions Bldg. No. 25 1st Floor, Aircraft Inspector in above areas.

14. Committeeman — A. Elson, Alternate — W. J. Kelly, All Aircraft Division on Third Floor, including part of Paint Shop on Second floor.

At a meeting on Monday, April 3, the members of the War Parts Division endorsed a plan of efficiency system for their division. This is the second time such a plan has been presented, it being turned down the first time. We wish the employees every success in their new undertaking.

On March 31, a committee comprised of President Elson, M. Smith, J. Smith, J. Barron and A. Tierney took up the case of the Maintenance for wage increases before the Regional Board. No decision has been received to date.

Two arbitration cases, that of J. Cehan, claiming to be paid 5c less than men previously doing his job, and the case of the female welders in the Aircraft Division was also taken up. These girls are applying for a new classified rate to be set up for their operation. They are at present paid 62c, and are requesting to be increased to 82c. No decision on these cases has been received as yet.

—Malcolm Smith.

Banquet to Be Tops in Fun

The Stewards and the Shop Committee are dropping the cares of their particular jobs for an evening of relaxation, fun and frolic on the night of April 21 when they will hold their annual banquet. All arrangements have been made by Bro. Tom Bouckley, chairman of the committee for the arrangements, for a very full evening of fine entertainment.

In order to add spice and novelty to the occasion Bro. Bouckley's committee has engaged a group of Toronto entertainers to put on a show for the Banquet and from where we sit it looks like it's going to be a bang-up affair!

That well known Toronto danseuse, Zena Cheevers, is to furnish the members with the latest in the Terpsichorean Art (whew! that's a honey), with Dorothy Fielding "giving out" with the piano and accordion. The real highlight, however, is bound to be that man of mystery and mystification, Zavorini, the magician. If any of the Stewards or Shop Committee don't feel like unbending and having a darned good laugh for once they had better take warning and remain at home.

Bros. Bert Elson and Malcolm Smith are to be the guest speakers of the occasion and no doubt will have some pithy points, perkily postulated, prepared previously and pregnant with portent for this particular party.

All in all, if this banquet lives up to the reputation that the Steward banquets of the past have acquired for good fun and a grand get together along with a few reminders of what a Steward body is, the members who attend are bound to look forward to the next one.

All stewards and their husbands and wives or boy or girl friends are expected to attend. Don't forget, girl stewards, this banquet is for you also.

Stewards or Shop Committee members free, companion tickets—50 cents.

U.A.W.A. Bowling League

The regular schedule will finish on Friday, April 14, the play-offs will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, April 18 and 19. All bowling enthusiasts should take in this event, it should be worth seeing. The trophies are now on display at the Motor City Bowling Alleys (thanks to Cliff Rendell). The Executive at this time would like to inform all members of the wonderful co-operation received from Mr. Rendell throughout the entire season. Special mention should be made of the "Dave Black Benefit Draw," 27 per cent of the tickets were sold by Cliff Rendell, this effort on his part contributed largely to the success of the draw. Dave Black will benefit to the extent of \$206.87, which will be used to take care of his hospital and doctor bills. This draw was put on by the Stock Room team of which Dave Black is a member, and the winning number, which was 91, was held by Evelyn Hodgson, 84 Cadillac Ave. S. On behalf of this team, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all members of the Bowling League and all others who assisted, for their wonderful co-operation in making this draw so successful.

The two teams to represent this League in the C.B.A. Industrial Section at Toronto on April 25 have now been decided upon, the following players will carry the banner: Team No. 1, Lloyd Hall—Reject, Myrle Reeson—Reject, Johnny Brady—Tool & Die, Bus James—Export, Bill Fisher—Reject. Team No. 2, Roy Martin—Steelers, Ken Peterson—Tool & Die, Hughie McDonald—Reject, Pete Simmons—Paint Shop, Ernie Demerse—Salvage.

The Executive feels sure that these players will give a good account of themselves. "The best of luck boys—we're all pulling for you." The third section winners will not be decided until the last night of the schedule. In Group 1, Door Busters lead with 15 points, Steelers 14 points, Shipping with 12 points. Any of these three teams can make the grade. In Group 2 the leaders are Paint Shop 18 points, Cardinals 18 points, Ontario Steel (b) 16 points. What a tussle it will be between these teams!

Group 1

1st Section winners—Reject
2nd Section winners—Salvage

Group 2

1st Section winners—Stock-rooms

ONTARIO STEEL

Shop Committee elections have been held and the following Brother elected: Bros. Townsley, Allin, Eldridge, Braiden and Turner and Bro. Townsley is again chairman of the committee.

Bro. Turner was elected representative to the Local education committee.

As regards grievances, all but one within the last two weeks have been settled with a minimum of discussion, in fact, most grievances have been dealt with in the initial stages.

This one grievance concerned two men who worked on grinders, and who desired a change of job. The reason they gave was that the grinders were affecting their health, and the company officials felt that before making a decision as regards a change of job, that both men concerned produce doctor's certificates to that effect. Both men refused to take the advice of the Shop Committee and the International Representative on the question, and put in their quit slips and absolutely refused to reconsider their decision and co-operate with the shop committee, leaving the committee no alternative. Through co-operation there may have been more favourable results. We have had word from the War Labor Board that the request by the Committee for a 5¢ per hour premium for night work has been granted.

Have You Paid Your ASSESSMENT?

IT WAS DUE APRIL 1st

2nd Section winners—Gun Mounts

High team score—Stock Rooms 1382 for 1

**THE BIG SHOTS
Group 1**

March 31: Bill Jackson USA (b) 483 for 2; Jim Long, Salvage 476 for 2.

April 7: Lloyd Hall, Reject 546 for 2; Snudden, Door Busters, 475 for 2.

Group 2

March 31: Denny Linton, Ont. Steel (a) 579 for 2; Ross, Gun Mounts 524 for 2; Pennington, Paint Shop 503 for 2.

April 7: Reynolds, Tool & Die 554 for 2; Pat. Jarvis, Stock Rooms 500 for 2

Special Meeting

SICK AND SOCIAL CLUB

Due to matters of importance that must be discussed at once!

UNION HALL

Tuesday, April 18
8 P.M.

All members urged to attend.

Nacelle Dept. 90J

WANTED — A bodyguard, apply to Al, Inspector of 90J to protect him from the two girls who mopped up the floor with him.

—Dan Cupid seems to have had a busy month in March, according to the diamonds we see about.

—I wonder how everyone likes our new whistle? We have christened it "Charlie." P.S.—It sounds like the one they use for prison breaks. Could be.

—Congrats to Mr. Ed. Button on the arrival of little Miss Button.

—Well, fellow workers, have you made up your mind on how large a Bond you can purchase this time? It won't be long now.

—At last they "dood it," the great lover and that certain Inspector of 90J. When is the "Great Plunge" Bill?

—"Flash!" We wonder who the new inspector is that thinks

WITH G.M. STEWARDS

(Continued from page 5)

try and take advantage of the Port Hope school of education which will enable members to participate the last week in June. Bro. Bill is in a position whereby he is able to well advise anyone to be present if at all possible.

The Chairman gave out information that the Ladies Auxiliary are only too willing to cater to the Stewards Banquet. A committee was elected to go ahead with the necessary arrangements and it is expected to be held April 21st.

Bro. Malc. Smith made his appearance a little behind schedule due to the fact he was attending a banquet at the Genosha. However Brother James carried on in the good old-fashioned way until his arrival. Bro. Malt. then checked on the situation and gave out additional information in short order.

The chairman completed all business and reports and was able to grant adjournment at ten bells.

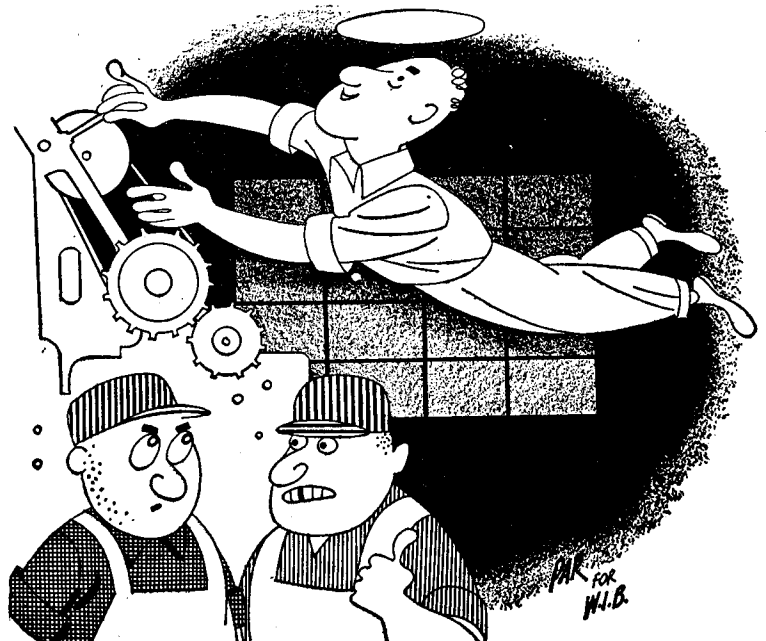
he's the "Sheik of Araby?" There's no conceit in Albert's family, he's got it all!

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

As long as it's my heart that breaks and not my bank account, I wouldn't get any grey hair over it if I were you.

Signed: Fergie.

ED. NOTE: Looks like some one is feudin' here! Look out for the hair, girls!



"Oh him? He just paid his Union dues a month in advance!"

Tool, Die and Maintenance Council To Organize District

A very representative meeting of tool and die and maintenance workers of the Oshawa District met in the Union Hall on Tuesday, April 4, to plan and arrange the future development of the Oshawa and District Tool and Die and Maintenance Council.

After hearing the reports of the Organizational and Constitution Committees and a brief outline of the reason for and the objects of such a council it was formally decided by motion to complete organization by electing delegates within the next three weeks at which time a meeting will be called for the elected delegates to select the council's officers and get down to the business for which the council is being devised.

The delegates are to be elected on the basis of one for each 50 members or less; that is, where there are over 50 members and 100 or less, two delegates, up to 50 or where there are less than 50 in a plant, one delegate.

The main objects of the Council were outlined as setting a basis for the proper levelling off of present rates of pay in the district, making a survey and bargaining to adjust rates that are too low; take steps to straighten out the present chaotic condition of apprenticeships and try to get Apprentice committees in all the shops to see that the apprentices get a square deal and proper training; to deal with classifications of the skilled and semi-skilled workers either by Journeymen committees or in some other manner decided by the Council.

In short to bring the general conditions and state of organization of the skilled and semi-skilled day worker to as high a level as that of the production workers in local industry, conditions that they achieved by their united efforts and that can be obtained for members of the Tool and Die and Maintenance Council by similar methods, it was stated.

The meeting was attended by members from Pedlar People, Ont. Malleable Iron, Fittings Ltd., GM North Plant Tool and Die, GM Maintenance, GM West Plant Tool and Die. Jim Barron chaired the meeting.

A. W. CREDIT UNION

By P.M.B.

The following three points signify what the purpose and operations of a Credit Union are:

(1) To encourage thrift by providing a safe, convenient, and attractive medium for the investment of the savings of its members.

(2) To promote industry, eliminate usury and increase the purchasing power of its members by enabling them to borrow for productive or other beneficial purposes at a reasonable cost.

(3) To train its members in business methods and self-government and bring them a full realization of the value of co-operation.

Many employees of General Motors and its Feeder Plants have found it very beneficial to become active in the Credit Union and have also interested their families. Enquire at the Union Office or call 2751 for any points which are not clear to you.

There are 170 credit unions in the Province of Ontario all in a healthy upstanding position — your co-operation and interest will enable the Auto Workers (Oshawa) Credit Union to be one of the most solid on record.

After Victory What?

(Continued from Page 2)

work for a reduced working week and the guaranteed yearly wage.

The great growth of trade unions and labor's recent turn toward independent political action is a clear expression of labor's determination that there shall be no return to the hungry thirties and that we shall utilize our resources, our industrial capacity and our skill for a post-war prosperity which will see the principles of the Atlantic Charter realized in action.

—Modern Digest

Do Women Want To Work After The War Ends?

There isn't any valid reason why there can't be plenty of work for everyone after the war if an adequate post-war program is prepared in time. The more workers there are in industry, the more goods and services can be produced for a higher standard of living for all. A number of statements have been published to the effect that our women workers are anxious to run back to their homes and kitchens as soon as the war is over and as a result, the unemployment problem will be solved.

To find out what the women themselves think of this the Union has prepared cards to distribute to the girls. The individual replies will not be divulged but the material so collected will aid in preparing a post-war program by the UAW-CIO.

Look out for these and please give your co-operation to help complete this survey as soon as possible.

WITH G.M. STEWARDS

By JAMES LOWNIE
Chairman

The attendance of the Steward meeting of March 24 was good considering the various sport attractions held the same evening. We take special note of Sister Dorothy Read. She is always present and continually on the alert for any emergency. Sister Read is well worthy of appreciation by the Aircraft of whom she is the representative.

Bro. Pearson gave a brief report of the Sick and Social Club and requested some co-operation in connection with new members who wished to join but could not locate a representative in certain departments. This will subsequently be taken care of, but in the meantime folks, contact Bro. Pearson.

Bro. Bill Noble made it known that there would be special pamphlets sent out regularly to each active steward for educational purposes and to keep him informed of the latest developments. He pointed out that a good steward should always be in a position to answer questions from the rank and file. Bro. Noble also told the members to

(Continued on Page 4)

Health Insurance? Let's Discuss It!

By A. J. TURNER

Talk . . . talk . . . talk. Yes, there has been a lot of talking about health insurance at Ottawa. And when there are so many different ideas about it, a lot of serious discussion is in order.

Do you want health insurance? Well, a recent Gallup Poll showed that a majority of Canadians do. This will be taken as a "go ahead" signal to the committees in charge of drafting legislation.

So far, just the bare outlines of a plan have taken shape. But remember, the kind of health insurance we will eventually get will depend on public opinion. And brother—we are the public! So let's opionate!

Sickness automatically hits us from three angles. We feel terrible. We worry about lost time. We wonder how we can pay for proper treatment.

The proposed health insurance only takes care of health services. Cash benefits are ignored. It is thought that since lost time from sickness is a risk, something like unemployment, it should be taken care of by a "sickness insurance plan." It should not be mixed up with a plan to provide health services to everyone.

What do you think?

There are still points upon which no agreement has been reached by the committees drafting the plan.

1. How is the plan to be financed? By employees? By employers? By government? Or a combination?

2. Who is going to control the plan? The medical profession alone? People's organizations (trade unions and farm organizations)? Government? Or a combination?

If you want more complete information on the subject, get your steward to secure the March 27 issue of "Labor News" from the Union Office for you. It's free! If you are really "hot" on the subject, get him to order from the W.E.A. (Workers Educational Association) the pamphlets "Health on the March" and "Health Can Be Planned" at 10c each.

Meanwhile, let's gather round and give the matter of health insurance a verbal workout!

DUPLATE

- The following are members of the Duplate to the Political Action Committee: Fred McKnight, Fred Johns, Les Peck.
- Who is the fellow in the Edgewood Department who refuses to pay any more dues?
- What we want to know, does Frank H. still meet the little office girl in the hallway?
- Those two fellows in the Glass Cutting Department have quit running hockey pools; guess the gang got wise.
- Does that certain girl have to go to Peterborough to see her soldier husband or is she just keeping an eye on him?
- They tell me Skip V. has a new theme—"Rosalie."
- No Smoking in the plant is the new order. Wonder how the foremen will make out in the office and stockroom?

Auxiliary Rep. Rebukes Union Members

(Continued from Page 1)

Labor Conference in Toronto. Bros. Elson and Noble were chosen to attend. Bro. Elson as delegate and Bro. Noble as observer. Labor Council is sending two delegates and with one from Steel and one from Ajax this area will have fair representation. Points raised in the discussion were that the basis of representation was not proportional and that the proposed per capita tax on the Unions affiliating was too great. Only one delegate for each Union, large or small, would seem to give the small locals a power out of all proportion to their size. This in conjunction with the proposed per capita tax of 1c per member per month would make the big Unions pay the shot with very little voice.

Urge Housing Committee

A motion to ask the City Council to set up a Housing Committee with adequate Labor representation was passed and some of the things the Union would like to see in a Federal Plan on Housing were enumerated. If workers' homes could be built with adequate financial aid from the Federal Government, i.e. 95 per cent of cost as a loan, repayment on the basis of about \$20 to \$25 per month over a long term, payments to include principal, interest and taxes, with the purchaser choosing his or her own plan and location, it was said by Finley Dafoe that such a plan was feasible, that it might be considered by the Federal authorities and that it should be entirely acceptable to those needing homes.

Union Buys Land Plan Labor Hall

With the purchase of the Engel property at 44 Bond St. East, Oshawa, Local 222, UAW-CIO has taken the initial step in an ambitious post-war plan to construct a fully modern building as a home for Labor in Oshawa.

This location, which faces the intersectional jog on Ontario St. from the north side of Bond St., is ideal for the purpose for which it is to be used, giving a clear view down Ontario St. to King St. and being close to General Motors which is the largest industry under Union contract in the district.

In accordance with the UAW-CIO policy which calls for an all-out, whole-hearted prosecution of the war to a victorious conclusion and after the war, a full employment program, the construction of the building is being held over to be carried on as a post-war project. The Union which has become such an important integral part of the community life, intends to take a part in the building of a more beautiful and finer city for the benefit of all its citizens and the completion of such a home for Labor at as early a date as possible upon the return of peaceful world conditions is an acknowledgement of Labor's sense of being a responsible part of community life, stated President Elson of the Union.

While detailed plans have not been fully worked out, it is intended that the building to be erected will contain offices for local Union bodies, an Assembly Hall, Committee rooms and recreational facilities for the members.

It is believed the location is of ample size for the construction of the building needed. There is a house at present on the property which has been occupied for some time by Cecil Gay, who is a member of Local 222. This will have to be removed before construction can commence.

The purchase was carried through on a strictly cash basis, with J. C. Anderson representing Mrs. Engel and A. J. Parkhill acting for the Union.

**Have You Paid
Your
ASSESSMENT?**

IT WAS DUE APRIL 1st

Educational Column

WHERE TO BEGIN

Too often we think of political action as engaging in an election of candidates to the House of Commons. We must begin to think of political action in its proper light, and that might even be divorced entirely from elections.

Political action cannot be a function only of a committee appointed under that title. It must be the function of the whole organization, because only then is there going to be sufficient pressure brought to bear on the various governing bodies to have



Drummond Wren

the decisions of the organization bear fruit. The union is no longer a "bread-and-butter" organization. It could concern itself exclusively with wages and hours when Labor was at a stage when these seemed to be the only problems that confronted it. Unions now (particularly one with the concentrated membership and its accompanying influence such as the United Automobile Workers) have a social responsibility which their acquired influence and strength compels them to assume. From that starting-off place, we have then to examine what are the channels through which a union may direct its influence in the field of political action.

In the community there are various committees at work, particularly at this time, that are concerned with the preparation of plans for activities in connection with winning the war and in connection with post-war reconstruction, to mention only a few. The deliberations of these committees will be sent forward to municipal and other governments for consideration. It is at this early stage that the influence of the union should be felt. Almost all of the problems discussed by such committees are of direct interest to Labor, because they concern, in the main, the lives of working men and women.

The local unions are keeping closely in touch with the discussions taking place at those committee meetings, thrashing the problems out, and conveying to the committees the views of the unions. This should be a preliminary step toward labor representation of the locals on prac-

tically all such groups in the community that directly or indirectly are going to have a bearing on the lives of working people.

One can hardly conceive of post-war reconstruction committees, as an example, meeting regularly without not only proper Labor representation but without their obtaining the views of Labor prior to their arriving at any conclusions. In the past, however, much of such Labor representation has been ineffective, as the representatives have sat on community committees without the benefit of a clear-cut Labor policy on the problems involved—which they could have had the opportunity of presenting!

This is where the union as a body becomes involved. The policy must be developed by the organization and conveyed to the community committees by the organization's designated representative. Naturally the development of a policy, particularly on the intricate problems of post-war reconstruction, including National Health, Community Housing, and numerous other measures related more specifically to the locality, will require not only thought but research for facts. Already many of the Educational Committees have been established on a basis that makes them the proper vehicle for providing such facts.

In co-operating with the Educational Committees, it must become the responsibility of groups of individuals to make specific studies of the various problems. Their findings might then be brought to the organizational meeting, and action then taken through the political action committees. The time to take political action is NOT after a measure has been passed by a legislative body, but when policies, by-laws, bills or "what-have-you" are in the formative process—and that means BEGINNING AT THE BEGINNING!

—Drummond Wren.