

UAW Members Endorse "Labor Nite" for HMCS Oshawa

The UAW-CIO OSHAWORKER

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

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OSHAWA, ONT.

MAY 1, 1944

BOSSSES BUILD "UNION" FAIL TO STATE POLICY

Ontario Manufacturers have established a "Union", its main object being to represent the employers in negotiations with Unions of their employees, also supply them with wage data and act on their behalf before various government Boards.

J. C. Adams K.C., formerly connected with the Regional War Labor Board for Ontario, is the chief executive officer. The Association is known as the Central Ontario Industrial Relations Institute.

To date the I.R.I.'s policy has not been revealed but several Oshawa Unions, in recent negotiations, have had to contend with Mr. Adams and find that employers no longer feel free to bargain on their own but follow policies laid down by the I.R.I.

Of further interest to Oshawa Unions is the fact that W. A. Wecker of General Motors and Colonel E. W. Phillips of Duplate are directors of the Institute.

One thing seems certain and that is the I.R.I.'s opposition to the Union shop and dues check-off provision in collective bargaining agreements.

It is understood, but not confirmed by the Oshaworker, that the entrance fee is one dollar per year for each employee. To date, however, the Oshaworker is advised these initiation funds have not been used. Apparently a special fund has been established

which takes care of the "Union's" large expenses as entrance fees have been put into Victory Loan Bonds.

The Institute is said to represent some seventy firms in Ontario and is gaining members at the rate of ten per month. The employers it already represents employ some ninety thousand workers.

It appears the Institute plans to take an active part in Industrial relations in this province and is seeking to expand or assist in establishing similar Institutes throughout Canada.

Its attitude to Labor Unions becomes of great importance to the organized Labor movement of this province and Canada. Will the Institute turn into an anti-Labor agency or will it truly try to improve relations between employers and Labor? This question will be answered by the future activity of the I.R.I.

BULLETIN BOARD

- May 3 Membership Meeting 8.00 p.m.
- May 5 G.M. Stewards 7.30 p.m.
- May 6 Bingo 8.30 p.m.
- May 9 Sick & Social. 8.00 p.m.
- May 10 Auxiliary 8.00 p.m.
- May 11 Rod & Gun..... 8.00 p.m.
- May 13 Bingo 8.30 p.m.

Two American soldiers in Egypt lived for months on dehydrated beef, dehydrated milk, dehydrated butter and vegetables. Visiting a Cairo museum they saw their first mummy.

"This is going too far," said one. "Now they're dehydrating women!"—Army & Navy Journal.

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.

Have You Paid Your ASSESSMENT?

IT WAS DUE APRIL 1st

Ask Further Action on Housing

The regular members meeting of Wednesday, April 20, endorsed the holding of a Labor Nite for HMCS Oshawa and authorized the Union Executive to spend up to \$150 on behalf of the Union in supplying equipment for the comfort of the crew.

The suggestion arose out of the report of the Executive committee as presented by Bro. Harry Benson and was enthusiastically received by the members. It was suggested that there might be a dance, Bingo and other entertainment to make the night an outstanding one in the community life of the city.

The matter was referred to the Executive for further action and an account of the action taken is reported in another part of the Oshaworker.

Dissatisfaction with the lack of action of both the Municipal authorities and the Federal Government were expressed by members present at the meeting. Bro. Art Tierney in answer to a question, stated that he knew of actual eviction of soldiers' wives in the community and felt the Federal authority should be questioned as to their plans on housing. A motion passed to refer the matter to the Oshawa and District Labor Council and that a protest as to the lack of action be sent to the proper Federal authority.

The Building Fund Draw produced the following winners:

No. 1482—\$50 Bond — Wm. Sempo, 171 Mitchell Ave., Oshawa.

No. 2112—\$25 prize—Fred D. Thompson, 157 Elliot Ave., Oshawa.

No. 2632—\$15 prize—Norman Argue, Janetville.

No. 818—\$10 prize — Mrs. J. Wooley, R.R.1., Oshawa.

Three \$5 prizes to No. 71—W. Hackney, Bowmanville, No. 2865—B. Mothersill, Ont. St., and No. 491—J. Smith, 335 Simcoe St. S., Oshawa.

A vote of appreciation was tendered Tom Bouckley, chairman of the Draw Committee for the good work done for the Union in the conduct of the Draw.

Next Deadline, Monday Noon, May 8

THE OSHAWORKER

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

EDITOR TALKS

Rehabilitation was discussed by the UAW District Council at their last meeting in Chatham and in line with other bodies who have given the matter some thought as to the best that we can do for the lads and lassies returning to civil life from the Services, the decision was that only thorough going reconstruction and planned full employment for all was the way out for the returning veterans.

It is worthy of note that some of the Unions are beginning to advise the Federal Committee in charge of the matter as to what they would advise doing with some of the war plants that will be idle upon the cessation of hostilities. This is of interest to the people of this locality due to our proximity to Ajax and the fact that the largest part of the working staff of that plant are drawn from the immediately surrounding district.

What to do with the plant has been a burning question for some time, finally however, suggestions are coming forward from Ajax itself and from other persons interested in the matter.

One of the best to date appears to be that of turning the plant into a canning, dehydration and quick freezing plant for food-stuffs after the war.

Many millions will need to be fed in starving Europe, China and India and with the new processes of vacuum dehydration it would not only be feasible to use the plant for this purpose to keep people profitably employed but it would open up a new source of income for the farming community and supply employment, because of quick freezing in the growing season and canning or dehydration in the winter or fall and spring, continuously to a large force of workers.

It is certain that dehydration is going to be extensively used as it is a great space saver when it comes to shipping. Not only that, the new processes do not destroy flavor or food value.

If this plan were carried out, **AJAX WOULD HAVE A FUTURE!**

UNITED ELECTRICAL WORKERS SEEK JUSTICE FOR RETURNED MEN

That men discharged from the armed forces are not being accorded fair treatment in the matter of clothing allowances and gratuities has become quite apparent. The Legion and the Unions in Canada have insistently protested the treatment accorded them. The UE Workers have given the matter thorough study and have come up with proposals that are eminently sensible and more adequate for rehabilitation than any other plans to date. The text follows in its entirety, as the UAW District Council endorsed them at their last meeting.

1. DEMOBILIZATION. Present: Transportation home or to point of enlistment plus one month's pay and allowances. **Proposal:** Transportation to previous employment or desired point in Canada, plus one month's pay and allowances for each six months of military service.

2. CLOTHING ALLOWANCE. Present: \$65. **Proposal:** \$125.

3. VOCATIONAL TRAINING. Present: Training up to 12 months with weekly grant of \$10.20 single, \$14.40 married. **Proposal:** Training sufficient for full qualifications, or up to period equalling military service, with subsidy not exceeding full service pay and allowances to bring "earning while learning" pay to parity with factory rates.

4. HIGHER EDUCATION. Present: Tuition fees, etc., paid on university courses for those qualified for university entrance; weekly subsistence grant \$10.20 single, \$14.40 married, for period equal to length of service. **Proposal:** Ditto, except full army pay and allowances during scholastic term.

5. INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT. Present: Reinstatement in former job with accumulated seniority if application made within three months of discharge in Canada (or four months if discharged outside of Canada.) Full employment insurance credits as of July, 1941, after fifteen weeks in insured employment. Application for unemployment benefits must be made within eighteen months of discharge. **Proposal:** Full army pay and allowances till located in secure employment, and for any other periods of unemployment at any time following discharge to-

talling not more than the term of military service. Reinstatement with accumulated seniority; benefits of applicable wage adjustments effected since enlistment.

6. PRIVATE BUSINESS. Present: Subsidy grant while getting re-established in own line of private business amounting to \$10.20 weekly or \$14.40 married for one year or period of service, whichever is less. **Proposal:** Subsidy to make up difference if returns from private business less than full army pay and allowances for period equal to military service. Lump sum re-establishment loans up to \$5,000, interest free on ten-year-pay plan (amortization), to individuals whose established business was discontinued because of military service; for present demobilization lift restrictions WPTB re new businesses.

7. FARMING. Present: Financial aid for full or part-time

farming, as follows: Maximum assistance \$6,000, of which \$4,800 is for land and buildings and \$1,200 for stock and equipment. Veteran is to pay 10 per cent down on farm and to repay two-thirds of total cost over 25 years at 3 1-2 per cent interest, the remainder plus loan on stock and equipment to become a state grant after 10 years if settler fulfills contract. Those eligible: Experienced men for full-time farming. Suitable urban and other workers for part-time farming on small holdings near communities where employed. Experienced commercial fishermen who desire part-time farming on small holdings. **Proposal:** In addition to above an amendment to The Veterans Land Act to provide where necessary a current living subsidy equal to full army pay and allowances at any time up until second crop harvested.

8. MEDICAL CASES. Present: Free medical treatment for pensioners; hospitalization for non-pensioners who apply within year of discharge. Servicemen discharged in hospital pensioned at \$44.20 monthly for single and \$62.40 married, less \$30.00 hospitalization. **Proposal:** Full army pay and allowances to continue during hospitalization and convalescence until ready for work. Medical treatment at any time with pay and allowances for conditions resulting from or contracted during military service.

9. DISABILITY PENSIONS. Present: Total disability pensions as follows: Man \$900, wife \$300, first child \$180, second child \$144, other children \$120. **Proposal:** Increase to "health and decency" scale (as per Toronto Welfare Council Report) plus 20 per cent for cost-of-living increases. Pensions free from income tax.

10. SURVIVORS' PENSIONS. Present: Widow \$720; children as in Total Disability Pensions. **Proposal:** Widow or dependent \$1,000; children at "health and decency" scale.

Bedaux Bedamns Himself at Last

Workers in mass production industries have long cursed the name of Charles Bedaux, "efficiency engineer" who invented the speed-up system.

For them it would be hard to say that Bedaux died too soon, except that his recent suicide stopped a treason trial that might have uncovered many another enemy of democracy.

This dear friend of the Duke of Windsor, pal of Von Ribbentrop, Petain, Laval, and the Fascists of many lands, was doing some fancy "engineering" for Hitler when the FBI caught up with him. One less negotiator, at least, for that phony peace which Schicklegruber wants.

—Ammunition

HMCS Oshawa to Receive Union Aid

Committee Plan Gala Night

With wide reaching plans for a gala night to be known as "Labor Night for HMCS Oshawa," the committee being established for the occasion have gone into action to make the affair one to be long remembered by the people of the Community as a whole.

Plans call for a concert, a dance, a bingo, draw, beauty contest and other attractions that will be worked out and the whole project given a thorough rounding off by the committee in charge at a very early date.

Two electric washers have already been guaranteed for the use of the crew members as one of the contributions of Labor in Oshawa to help lighten the labor of the boys at sea.

Another contribution that will be made, provided the people of Oshawa will donate old, worn or out-dated fur coats, is the gift of fur vests for the benefit of the men standing watch in the cold of the North Atlantic where it is likely that the ship Oshawa will be serving her share of the conveying of food and equipment for the embattled members of our Allies and our own boys and girls who are overseas.

Any furs that are available should be left at the Union Hall of the UAW, 17½ Simcoe St. N., or at the office of the United Steel Workers, 377 Simcoe St. S. They will be then baled and forwarded to the Fur Workers Union in Toronto where they will be made up into vests, the labor to do the work being donated by the members of the Fur and Leather Workers Union. Bro. Joe Star, International Representative of the Union very generously making the offer on behalf of the Fur and Leather Workers of Oshawa and Toronto.

The committee established is broadly representative, taking in every labor organization in the district and co-operating with the general committee set up by Mayor Davis to provide comforts for the men of the ship. Every article donated will bear the name of the donor and will remain aboard the "Oshawa" as a fitting of the ship itself.

U.A.W.A. Bowling League

Season 1943-44 is now history, all that remains is the big banquet on April 27th, more about that in the next issue. The Reject team won the UAWA Trophy, and the Shop Flyers were the winners in the Consolation play-offs. Individual trophies will be presented to the Reject players, while the Shop Flyers will get medals.

The "high average" prize goes to Lloyd Hall of the Reject team, "high double"—Bus. James—Export, and "high single"—Ken Peterson, Tool & Die. The Stock Rooms team, last year's champions, were ousted in the first stages of the play-offs finishing in seventh place, "we can't win it all the time," says 'Cap' Burgess. The Shipping team put up a real "scrap" as usual and stayed right in the fight until the last. Better luck next year, boys, you set a wonderful example to the rest of the teams and we all look forward to having you with us next season. This season has been the most successful in the history of the League but we can still improve next season, so let's all be back when bowling resumes. Below are the play-off results:

1st Play Off—Group 1

1st. Tool & Tie	2452 for 2
2nd. Reject	2373 for 2
3rd. Ont. Steel (b).....	2281 for 2
4th. U.S.A. (b)	2259 for 2
5th Salvage	2214 for 2

Finals—Group 1

1st. Reject	3609 for 3
2nd. Tool & Die.....	3456 for 3

1st Play Off—Frankenstein Consolation Trophy

1st. Army Cab.....	2136 for 2
2nd. Shop Flyers	2122 for 2
3rd. Fur Workers	2119 for 2
4th. Cardinals	2092 for 2
5th. Shipping	2061 for 2

Finals — Frankenstein Consolation Trophy

1st. Shop Flyers	3297 for 3
2nd. Fur Workers	3235 for 3
High Average — Lloyd Hall, Reject 231.	
High Double—Bus James, Export, 614.	
High Single — Ken Peterson, Tool and Die, 400.	
High Team—Stock Rooms, 1382 for 1 game.	

THROUGH THE DUES WICKET

By A. G. SHULTZ
Fin. Secretary

Greetings:

It appears as if the Assessment is going over about 100 per cent. It was due on April 1st. Before that date there were 486 members who had paid their assessment. In order to remain in good standing, all members who were listed as of Jan. 31, 1944, must pay the assessment by the last of May. There are still quite a number who have not paid but we expect that by next pay there will be very few who have not paid the \$1.00 assessment.

1944 Dues Paid Buttons

Lapel buttons were ordered for the first 100 members who paid 1944 dues in advance. We are pleased to report that the buttons have been received and that those entitled to same may have one by calling personally at the dues wicket.

Transfers

According to our Constitution members may transfer to the UAWA from another C.I.O. union providing they leave that union in good standing. Permission has been granted to make this apply to members of all unions affiliated with the Canadian Congress of Labor. No initiation fee is required with such transfers. The payment of one month's dues places the member on our active membership list.

Office Hours

The Union office is open for your service on:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
9 A.M. to 8 P.M.
SATURDAY
9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

PAY YOUR DUES WHEN DUE!

A. W. CREDIT UNION

By PHYLLIS BATHE

The April 16th membership meeting zipped right along and completed important items of business, such as:

- Affiliation to the Ontario Credit Union League.
- Adopted a plan of insurance on loans against permanent disability and death;
- Changed By-Laws to conform with the C.U. Act.
- Set up a delinquency committee (Fred Cooper, Alex McKean and Leo Gabourie)
- Presented the charter.
- Cancelled Sunday meetings until September.

The Treasurer's report was most encouraging giving full proof that there is a need for systematic saving and low-cost credit. \$1,192 in loans were issued during the month of March. There is still a surplus large enough to permit many more members to apply for loans.

A motion was also passed that action be taken before the Fall meeting concerning those members who have had an inactive account for 12 months or more. Check your pass book—you may be one of the guilty ones.

In order to speed and facilitate service, a deposit slip to be made out by the members themselves, is to replace the receipt now issued. Your co-operation in always bringing along your pass book for each transaction and filling out the deposit slips will assist immensely.

Prospective members—remember 25c fee and a small deposit will put you on the first rung of the ladder marked Co-operative Saving and Credit.

Pledge Support to Ford Workers

250 Shop Stewards Attended Annual Banquet

The 250 Stewards and their wives present at the Stewards Banquet on Friday night, April 21, dispatched the following telegram to the Ford workers at Windsor. "Stewards and their wives, representative of all organized plants in Oshawa, at their annual Stewards banquet, pledge their full support to the workers of Ford's in their fight for their just demands."

Speakers included Albert Elson, President of the Local who gave some attention to the two most recent Orders in Council that affect Labor, the Orders that are known as the "Labor Code" and that are affecting wage control.

Bro. Malc. Smith, Chairman of the Shop Committee, gave the members a humorous account of the life of the wives of the Union officers and active members. Malc appears to be on the road to success as an after-dinner speaker!

Bro. James Lowney, Chairman of the Steward body, expressed his appreciation for the fine co-operation of the Stewards and told them that only a strong Steward body made a strong Union.

Sisters Henderson and Mayne of the Women's Auxiliary brought the greetings of the Women to the men at their banquet and assured the Stewards of their desire to co-operate whole-heartedly in the vital work of the Local.

George Laidlaw, talented magician, Violet Murray, versatile soprano and Zena Cheevers, agile acrobatic dancer, all of Toronto, provided the entertainment for an outstanding social get-together of the hard-working Steward Body.

Every good illustration of the co-operation of the Women's Auxiliary was the catering which they undertook for this rather large banquet. Great appreciation for the excellent repast provided was expressed by many present.

Bro. Tom Bouckley, Chairman of the Stewards banquet committee, chaired the gathering in his own inimitable style and should be given the credit due him for the fine arrangements.

**Have You Paid
Your
ASSESSMENT?**

IT WAS DUE APRIL 1st

Letters to The Editor

"Education for enlightenment—not to confuse," such was the praiseworthy conclusion of A. G. Shultz's letter in the last issue of the Oshaworker. Yet the body of his letter showed much confusion on Political Action.

Most students of Labor organization know that unions are primarily organized for "bread and butter" reasons. When they are fighting for higher wages and better working conditions, within the plant it is called an economic struggle. When this fight goes outside the factory gates and involves governmental policy it is termed a political struggle.

Now the old, reactionary, die-hard, craft union "leaders" claim that the role of a trade union should be purely economic. We know better! Experiences during this war period have taught us that political policies enacted at Toronto and Ottawa do affect our every day economic lives. And what we say about these policies does matter!

The rallying of masses of organized workers to throw their weight for progressive political measures or legislation is indeed political action. But to compare this mass, non-partisan movement to the traditional "big business" palm greasers and wine and dinner lobbyists that frequent "parliament hill" for the purpose of influencing members is to lack a balanced view.

We can all agree that casting a ballot is important. This is true for a trade union as well as a political election. Who is to represent you is a serious matter. But even the best Union officers cannot do a job alone! They need day to day organized backing from the men in the shop. They need active, educated membership to help form policy and to impress the employers with the fact that they represent a mass of determined and informed workers. A shop committee without serious backing from union members finds itself blocked at every turn by a cunning management.

As with Union representatives, so with political representatives. Elect them but don't neglect them!

The ballot? Yes! But not only the ballot. More important—the steady pressure of informed, determined, organized labor on all matters political. That is political action!

Yours Fraternally,
(Signed) A. J. Turner

UAW Dist. Council To Voice Demands

Take Initiative In Approach To Government Etc.

Full employment under a thoroughly planned reconstruction program was considered by the delegates to the last District Council meeting of the UAW at Chatham, April 22 and 23, to be the only satisfactory means of rehabilitation for those returning from the armed forces of civil life.

A recommendation was made to all the Locals that the District Council be considered the central body to make approaches to Government and other bodies, augmented by local representation where at all possible.

Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed with the type of organization established by the CCL in the Ont. Federation of Labor and Bro. Mosher was so advised. A delegation of the UAW is to visit the President of the CCL with a request for changes in the Constitution to allow more adequate representation.

A request was also made to the International Exec. Board that as the UAW is one of the largest Unions in Canada, that we be represented at the Labor Conference in London in June and that Bro. Burt be the delegate.

It was arranged for a letter of appreciation to be sent to the CCF and Labor-Progressive members for their support of Labor during the recent session of the Ont. Legislature.

The Ford situation came in for much discussion and a clear picture was presented to the Council that left no doubt as to the bad faith of the Company.

Ford Motor Company of Canada, April 20, suddenly terminated the Contract with Local 200 U.A.W.-C.I.O. and deprived its workers of Collective bargaining machinery which had been in force for 28 months. In an obvious attempt to nullify industrial democracy in the Empire's automotive arsenal, the company arbitrarily placed an interpretation on the Contract other than that which has been mutually accepted since January, 1942. It stubbornly defies Labor Board requests to maintain the status quo for one week and proceeded to suspend Stewards who acted in accord with rules laid down by the Company.

A telegram was sent to President Roy England promising the support of the Council to the Ford workers.

It was also recommended that the facts of the situation at Ford's be placed in pamphlet form and distributed to the Locals.

A very excellent report of the Rehabilitation Committee led to a motion that this committee be kept in action for a time to consider further the program of reconstruction that they propose. Their interim report will be presented in the near future to all Locals in Canada as soon as they can be prepared. They also concur in the ten-point program of the United Electrical Workers of America which is considered to be one of the finest pronouncements on post-war to date. The proposals appear in another column of the Oshaworker.

The Council gave full and unanimous endorsement to the Sixth Victory Loan.

Nacelle Dep't, 90J

We see that odd look on Smitty's face. P.S. His wife is coming for a visit from the East Coast. P.P.S. She arrived Saturday at 6 p.m. for two weeks.

The "Sheik of Araby", claims there are not enough women for his harem in 90 J.

Well, the girls are off nights and on days again. How do you like it, girls?

It is claimed the Stewards Banquet went over with a bang!

It may be your bank account as well as your heart, if you're not careful, Fergie.

West Plant Tool & Die

The boys of the Toolroom are glad to welcome back to our midst "the one an only" Jimmy Turner. He says that while investigating the Government's health institutes was boring, but necessary, and on the whole decidedly beneficial, he sincerely trusts that no one will find it necessary to try out the unemployment insurance for any lengthy period. The "Red Tape" might cause them to see red.

Several of the boys have been visiting the Naval Recruiting office in Toronto. Looks like the Tool and Die will be staffed with Naval Ratings after the war.

"Councillor" Thomas reports water having been made available to many homes in East Whitby this spring—as much as a foot or so in some of the residents' basements.

Ont. Fed. of Labor Set Up

Constitution Inadequate

High light of the Ontario Federation of Labor Conference in the Royal York Hotel, Saturday and Sunday, April 15 and 16, was the lengthy discussion of, and the serious objection to, the clauses that govern the representation to the conventions of the Federation and the per capita tax being demanded of the Unions.

After lengthy discussion it was apparent that the Canadian Congress of Labor had made provision at a previous convention to govern the setting up of Provincial bodies which ensure that they will remain the submissive child of the Canadian Congress of Labor.

Only one delegate is allowed for each Union regardless of size and yet the per capita is one cent per member per month which means in effect that the large Locals will pay the larger part of the "shot" with the organizations that break up their membership into many small Locals controlling the Federation. In other words a local with 25 members paying two bits a month has as much voice as a local paying on 10,000 members or \$100 per month.

Labor council representation is better arranged, of course, with a fee of \$10 per year and two delegates allowed. Many organizations had delegates present who had not affiliated and many expressed doubts as to their future action in this regard, unless and until the Congress sees fit to establish a more equitable basis of representation.

Sunday morning however was devoted to a discussion of the different Orders-in-Council affecting Labor and the various Boards set up by government deal with Labor problems. A. R. Mosher, President of the CCL and C. S. Jackson, President of the United Electrical Workers in Canada, conducting most of the debate.

All the delegates present were convinced that such an organization was needed but were disappointed in many cases by the very restrictive constitution adopted.

—: BARGAINING BRIEFS :—

By Malcolm Smith

The results of the two cases taken to arbitration on April 4th have now been received, and we are pleased to report a good gain in both cases. In the case of J. Cehan, we were successful in having his rate increased to 75c per hour.

In the case of the female welders (Aircraft) who were requesting that a rate be set for their classification over and above the 62c per hour which they were receiving, the arbitrator ruled, and the War Labour Board concurred that their range should be 56c-73c per hour inclusive of former C.O.L. bonus, which is an increase of 11c per hour. This increase is retroactive to the 14th of January, which is the date the case was first submitted.

For the first time in our history we had an agenda submitted to management which had so many grievances on it that we were unable to clean it up in one day, and we had to adjourn our meeting on April 11th and start on the remainder of the agenda on April 13th to clean it up.

There were two dismissal cases—Bro. Armstrong, a night shift spray booth cleaner, dismissed for refusing to obey the orders of his foreman. We were successful in having him reinstated. The other was Bro. Rogers of the Export Dept. dismissed for continuous absenteeism after being warned. Bro. Rogers really had a bad record, and we were unable to have him put back to work.

I want to point out to our members who make a habit of staying away from work, that when the Company takes action of this kind against them, the committee haven't really got an argument to put forward in their defence. I would like to ask these Brothers that they cut out this practice, as it is a very large headache both for Union and Management when such cases occur.

The question of transfer of senior day workers to production jobs was again discussed and it

was pointed out that very few production jobs were vacant at present, but the system agreed on some time ago was still being carried out—that is, new employees are placed on the lower paid jobs, and the senior day worker is promoted to the higher paid job.

The question of having the pay made up of the men in the 2nd Batt. Ont. Regiment going to camp this year would probably correspond with the dates announced for inventory.

The case of W. Waddington sweeper, who was returning to work after an injury, and put on a 70c job, while still being paid sweepers rate was settled satisfactorily. Bro. Waddington goes up to 70c, retroactive to the first day he started back to work.

G. Kadelick was sent to his own doctor when he reported at the plant hospital with an injury, and is claiming that G.M. should pay the bill incurred. The answer to this one has not been received yet. — Three cases of workers applying for overalls were all turned down. There is a shortage of overalls, and they are only be-

ing supplied where absolutely necessary.

The men on the Wheel line were claiming that the C.O.L. bonus had not been properly transferred to their hourly rate. On investigation, it was discovered that this was being done properly.

The question of vacation pay being paid to employees with less than a year's seniority was taken up but management stated they will not change the plan. An attempt to have it changed will be made by the Union through representation to the Department of Labor and the Regional War Labor Board.

On the question of leave of absence for farm work, employees will be allowed to quit and go on the farm, their seniority will be protected, but they will not accumulate any seniority while they are gone. On reporting back to G.M., they will be required to furnish satisfactory proof that they have been on farm work.

This covers all of the more important points taken up at the two meetings with management.

M. Smith, Chairman.

Bobby had attended a birthday party. "I hope," his mother said a bit apprehensively, "you didn't ask for a second piece of cake."

"Oh, no," replied Bobby. "I only asked Mrs. Smith for the recipe so you could make some like it. Then she gave me two more pieces."

BACK PAY CHEQUE



Only one of many substantial pay cheques won by employees at Metallic Roofing in Toronto through action of Local 252 UAW-CIO. The cheques covered back pay for over 44 hours for overtime back to last August. The Board also awarded the employees the full cost-of-living bonus and a five cent bonus for night shift workers.

Tool, Die and Maintenance

Tool, Die and Maintenance are rolling right along. The committee meetings well attended and enrollments in the new Tool, Die and Maintenance Council are coming in at a very fine rate indeed.

Plans for the completion of the organization have been made and it is expected that the Council will be properly set up in the next week or two.

One of the very necessary next steps, it was decided at the last committee meeting, is to completely organize the whole district to ensure a truly representative group of skilled and semi-skilled workers' delegates will complete the organization.

It has been suggested that, in order to give the Council a stronger working organization, alternates be elected for the Council, one for each regular delegate, to have both voice and vote but not to be eligible for office or to chair a committee. This of course is subject to ratification by the members.

A full membership meeting will be called as soon as arrangements can be made to secure a speaker on the purposes and aims of such a council. It is believed possible to get such a man in the near future, it was stated at the last committee meeting.

Some of the members seem to be a little obscure as to the objects of the Council, so it might be well to state them here:

Its purpose is to establish proper rates and hours, to deal with journeymen ratings through a proper committee or committees established for that purpose, to work to establish proper apprenticeship contracts and committees to see that they are lived up to, contracts that will be in accordance with the best trade practices and in line with the Ontario Apprenticeship Act.

It is not a craft union nor dual unionism! You must belong to the industrial union in your shop to join the Council! To the skilled and semi-skilled day worker it is a vital part of the union's machinery to aid in getting him his just reward for skill and service.

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IT WAS DUE APRIL 1st

Office Workers Organize

MEETING ELECTS COMMITTEES

Meeting in the Genosha Hotel, Tuesday, April 25, the office workers of General Motors got away to a flying start in the culmination of some weeks of effort to organize the staff of the Main Office and the other clerical workers throughout the plant.

Welcomed to the meeting by International Representative Jas. Smith who acted as chairman, and also by Bro. Elson, President of Local 222, the main speakers of the occasion were introduced and dwelt on the purposes of such an organization as that which they were joining.

John Wigdor of the W.E.A., spoke at some length on the reasons for unions, that now we must organize to protect ourselves against ever again being called upon to defend ourselves against such madness as let us in for the present war. Unionism is in the air, he said, and only by strong organization can we protect ourselves for the future.

Bro. Spraggett of the office workers at De Havilland drove home some points as to the benefits to be derived from a union, and spoke of the experiences at their plant, where today the office workers are taking a very active part in the union.

Bro. McPhee, President of the De Havilland Local, 112, also addressed the meeting briefly and expressed his pleasure at being present and said he was very pleased to see such a healthy turnout. He was very glad to welcome the office workers of G.M. as union brothers, he stated.

The task of selecting the committee members was undertaken and after some discussion and straightening out of the departments, a well balanced committee with representation from every department was finally selected.

Further plans for completing the organizing drive will be carried out and it is expected that the Office will be 100 per cent in the union in the very near future.

Argentina has announced that the freedom of the press is assured. Papers may publish anything they please, provided that it also pleases the government.

Educational Column

Racial Discrimination

There are alarming signs of growing racial prejudices in Canada today. Whether there is an actual growth of such feeling, or whether it is simply, that in fighting a war against an enemy who has erected racial prejudice into a national virtue, the incongruity



Drummond Wren

of our harboring prejudice stands out more sharply, is hard to say, but in any case we cannot afford to be complacent about any manifestation of racism.

The fact that the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was unable to meet at the swank CPR-owned Seignory Club, because it won't admit Jews (UNRRA's Chairman, Herbert Lehman, is a Jew), has drawn attention to the existence of Hitlerite practices in our midst.

Unfortunately it is not only amongst the "upper crust" that racial prejudice exists, we also find it amongst workers in our factories. We have the recent reports from Windsor plants of the circulation of anti-Semitic poems and only last week in Toronto at a theatre patronized for the most part by working people, a section of the audience booted when pictures were shown of the arrival in Canada of Jewish refugees.

Here is where the Educational Committee should go to work. We cannot afford to let pass any evidence of racial sentiments in our plants, but must actively combat it. This is not just a case of self preservation. Unions must unite working people, as our constitution says, "regardless of religion, race, creed, color, political affiliation or nationality." Otherwise we divide and weaken our ranks in the struggle with reaction.

It is no accident that Henry Ford has promoted anti-Semitism and anti-Negro sentiment—it is good business for him to have the workers fight amongst themselves. When workers fall into the trap of harboring racial prejudices they are just doing what the anti-union employers want them to do.

The Educational Committee should first of all combat racism with the scientific truth that **racial superiority or inferiority is a myth**, which no scientist, outside Nazi Germany would support. Literature such as the "Races of Mankind," being distributed by the CIO, should be circulated.

The Educational Committee must also show the real role of racial prejudice as the tool of reaction, to divide the unity of progressive forces. Wide distribution should be given "They Got the Blame," CIO Publication No. 95, which in colored pictures shows how minorities have been used as scapegoats from early times.

Finally the Educational Committee should meet with representatives of minority groups and try to work with them on a program of community action to combat prejudice. Along with the Political Action Committee, action should be taken to support the Federal anti-discrimination bill and to amend the provincial bill to give it more teeth. If your plant practices discrimination in hiring, ways and means should be found of combating this.

The UAW-CIO has been built into a great union because of the unity of all races, of black and white, Christian and Jew. This unity must be maintained and all attempts to divide us on religious or racial grounds defeated, if we are to continue as a strong and progressive force. This is a life and death struggle for our unions in which the Educational Committee must take the lead.

Drummond Wren.

WELL, THAT'S DIFFERENT

Peter was visiting his aunt in the country, and this relative was somewhat strict with him. One thing upon which she insisted was the observance of Sunday as not a day for play. So when she found Peter sailing his toy boat in the bath on Sunday afternoon, she was "grieved."

"Don't you know, Peter," she said, reproachfully, "that it's very wicked to sail your boat on Sunday?"

"Oh, but aunty," explained Peter, anxiously, "it's not a pleasure trip. It's a missionary boat going to Africa."