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FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT, Erwin Furlan of Guatemala, reaches the time for farewells to his adopted American family, the Kelches of 29205 Glen Castle Court. Back row (left to right) Greg, Harry H. Kelch, and Erwin. Front row (left to right) Carol, Mrs. Kelch, and Shirley.

Erwin Furlan Expresses Feelings About Exchange

In a statement expressing his feelings as the time comes for him to leave the United States and return to Guatemala, Erwin Furlan, foreign exchange student who has been living with the Harry Kelch family for a year had this to say:

"I heard about American Field Service about two years ago and with it, about experiences, people, things and also about peace. I applied to be an Exchange Student and fortunately I was selected.

"Now I can say that I am one of the luckiest boys for being accepted and being able to come. One of the reasons I wrote in my application, answering the question of why I wanted to come to the United States was that I think this is the best way to understand people from other countries and it is the right way to interpret their ideas and feelings.

"Since the first day I arrived there began to appear new things to do, see, learn, and the most important fact, to make new friends. This year has gone very fast and it is hard to believe that it is almost over. Now, our feelings are beginning to be mixed up because we are going home but leaving our friends here; but as somebody told me, this is what gives us experiences. To remember friends and things. We did and learned.

"All these experiences, I have gained here, during this year, are the ones I wouldn't be able to gain at home or maybe some of them I could, but never in one year and I think this is the great part of the program; it gives us in one year, what our society wouldn't be able to give in the same time.

"Finally, I want to thank everybody who helped in any way to make possible my stay here in the U.S.A., and specially to the people who work for F.S.A."

Dogs Have Day At County Show

At the Oakland County Kennel Club all-breed dog show held at Detroit Artillery Armory on May 22, a number of entries from the Farmington area were awarded prizes. A total of 799 dogs were entered in the show representing 82 different breeds.

A toy Manchester terrier, Carolyn Bravier, owned by Dr. H. E. Viergutz and Caryl Carlton with a Farmington P.O. box address won best of breed.

A German short-haired pointer, Ch. Von DerTol Klerkhol, owned by Ken Winterle of 28211 Peppermill Rd. won best of breed.

A bulldog, Pocomo Ambassador Sirtus, owned by Ed-

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Why a strike against Edison?

• Some Unpublished Details of Edison's Proposal to Local 17, IBEW

A strike against Detroit Edison has been called by Local 17 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO, representing 747 of our 9500 employees. About 450 of the men on strike are linemen.

Background of the Dispute

The current contract expired May 30. Since April 7, union representatives have discussed, in many meetings with the company, terms of a new two-year contract.

The union is asking for 20 per cent more in cash and benefits, effective immediately.

The company offers a 10.3 per cent increase in cash and benefits—5.6 per cent in June 1966 and 4.7 per cent in June 1967.

This is well in excess of the 3.2 per cent guidelines urged on industry and labor by the Federal administration.

The union has rejected this offer.

The Edison Linemen Are Well Paid
Edison linemen are currently paid a base rate of \$8380 a year—guaranteed. There are no layoffs, and overtime is frequent. Of our 450 linemen, 355 made over \$11,000 in 1965.

The hourly rate for our linemen, before the offered increase, is \$4.03 an hour. This is 15 to 25 cents an hour more than comparable skilled tradesmen earn working for representative steel, auto manufactur-

ing and refining companies, and other major employers in Metropolitan Detroit.

Our lineman rate is 30 cents an hour more than the average lineman rate of the three major electric companies close to Detroit.

In addition, so-called "fringe benefits" cost Edison \$1.06 an hour—\$2200 a year—per employee. This includes life insurance, pensions, health and major medical-surgical insurance, and pay for time-not-worked (holidays, vacations, sickness, personal affairs). Edison's fringe benefits are well above the Metropolitan Detroit average.

Edison's Offer Is Fair and Reasonable

In Metropolitan Detroit the cost of living has gone up 7.4 per cent since January 1, 1961 (Federal Index of April 1966). In that time Edison's base rate to linemen has increased by 16.6 per cent, not including our present offer.

Edison is proud of its linemen. Theirs is often difficult work. We believe they should be well paid. They have been and, with our offer of \$4.165 per hour, they will continue to be.

At the same time, this company is regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission so far as rates and earnings are concerned. We have a continuing responsibility to serve customers well and at a reasonable cost.

Why, then, a strike against Edison?

Walker L. Ciesler, Chairman of the Board

Donald F. Kigar, President



Friday June 10

10 AM to 6 PM

LEARN THE TRUTH

... about WIGS

A representative from the Miami offices of the FASHION TRESS WIG Company will be on duty at our salon in Downtown Farmington Center from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, June 10 to answer your questions.

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