

Schoolcraft Passes A Labor Hurdle, Big One Left

Schoolcraft College Trustees have passed one labor negotiating hurdle but face a major obstacle in the dealings with the Faculty Forum which have been deadlocked for weeks and have been submitted to fact-finding procedures of a state labor mediator.

The faculty team filed unfair labor charges against the administration negotiators and a hearing has been set by the State Labor Mediation Board for Aug. 18. The two negotiating teams won't meet again until Aug. 21 with the opening of the fall term slated for Aug. 28.

The trustees approved a contract covering fulltime office personnel, members of the Association of Office Personnel, which represents the 30 office workers. It provides for a two-year salary package and increased fringe benefits.

The story of negotiations with the Faculty Forum has a much different tone where the two teams are more than \$50,000 apart on a money package. The administration team has placed the \$50,000 budgeted for increases to the professional staff in the hopper. The Faculty team has reduced its demands from the original \$1,250 plus increments to \$125 plus increments — a difference of more than \$50,000.

The Faculty team, through its chief negotiator Anthony Rizzo, Monday issued a statement explaining its position and rapping recent statements of College President Dr. Eric Bradner.

The statement follows: "Recent press statements by President Eric J. Bradner have attempted to place the responsibility for the negotiating impasse upon the Faculty of Schoolcraft College. While not wishing to enter into a debate concerning issues better settled at the bargaining table, we believe it necessary to set the record straight.

"The President would have you believe that the real issue in the dispute is that 'the Faculty continues to demand more money than the College has at its disposal.' In reality, the issue is not whether the

money is available — it is position. The real issue is the refusal of the Board to make any portion of this money available for the Faculty even



STEPHEN MIHALKO (left), of Redford Township, is shown receiving his award and watch for 35 years of service with Detroit Diesel Engine Division of General Motors Corporation. Presenting the award is George Thomas, manager of service publications. Mihalko lives with his wife, Mary, and their four children at 15890 Lennane, Redford Township.

Redford Man Charges Fraud in \$5,300 Loss

Bond of \$2,000 has been set for David P. Baltes, Sr., of 17885 Haggerty Road, Plymouth Township, who has been bound over to Circuit Court on charges of defrauding a Redford Township man of \$5,300.

Redford Township Justice of the Peace Randall Kohler recently ordered Baltes to stand trial for "larceny by conversion."

"The complainant, Frank W. Kring, of 8085 Tecumseh St., Redford Township, said that

on March 11, 1966, he hired Baltes to act as superintendent of a new home he intended to build on Lot 78 in the Old Homestead Subdivision, Quakertown Lane, Farmington Township.

Kring said that between that date and December 1, 1966, he paid Baltes \$8,000 for labor and materials.

His investigation showed that Baltes had only spent \$2,700 on the project and that workmanship was imperfect and not acceptable to the Farmington Township Building Department.

Thus, the reason for the impasse becomes very clear, especially upon examining certain significant statements included in Dr. Bradner's recent press releases. "He stated: 'The Administration and the Board of Trustees have felt from the moment negotiations began that its offer was eminently fair, most realistic and always consistent with both the require-

ments of the Faculty and the interests of the taxpayers of the College district.

"This, no other offers have been made and no compromise has been possible because and only because the Board has determined from the beginning what their final offer would be. It is this negotiating."

"Despite increased funds and a considerable reduction in Faculty demands, no negotiated agreement has been possible when the Board apparently fails to understand the meaning of the negotiating process. The Board should know that it is not the task of the Administration and the Board to determine by themselves what is fair and consistent for this Faculty.

"Regardless of the misleading statistics issued by the President, the great majority of this Faculty does consider itself to be underpaid with the result that many of us must work overtime at half pay to earn a reasonable income.

"Bluntly stated, we do not consider this state of affairs to be fair or consistent with our requirements. That is precisely why we are negotiating. Therefore, the present negotiating Board offer has been rejected because it fails to significantly alter the present situation.

"When the Board and the Administration are ready to negotiate rather than to dictate the terms of a financial settlement, the impasse will be broken. The failure to negotiate does not rest upon the Faculty's bargaining team.

"It is the type of position outlined above on the part of the Board that has led not only to the current impasse but also to the filing by the Faculty of numerous unfair labor practice charges, with the State Labor Mediation Board. These charges will be aired at a public hearing before the State Board to be held shortly."

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