

public affairs

GM Tells Terms Of New Contract

United Auto Workers members in General Motors plants are expected to approve a new national contract with the company following the UAW executive board's recommendation for a "yes" vote.

The contract would cover 387,000 UAW-represented employees and run until Sept. 14, 1970.

Reaction of skilled workers, often dissatisfied with UAW policies, is expected to be positive. Skilled workers campaigned for \$1 an hour pay hikes.

The contract, according to GM announcement, would give them 50 cents an hour—20 cents as part of a general boost and

another 30 cents to skilled persons.

MEANWHILE, local agreements must be reached at the large majority of GM's 134 bargaining units.

Louis G. Seaton, GM vice president in charge of the personnel staff, said, "The economic settlement follows those previously negotiated with our major competitors, with respect to wages and insurance, pension and unemployment benefits."

PROVISIONS OF the new agreement, according to GM's staff, include:

- A general 20 cents an hour increase for all hourly-rated employees, and an additional 30 cents an hour for employees in skilled trades classifications. These increases are effective upon ratification of the national agreement. They will be retroactive to Oct. 16. Payment of the retroactive portion will be made at each plant as soon as all local issues at that plant are resolved.
- An annual improvement factor will increase for all employees in both the second and third years of the agreement which would range from nine to 18 cents.

- Eighteen cents of the present 33 cents cost-of-living allowance under the previous agreement has been transferred to the base wage rate. The remaining five cents will be continued as the cost of living for the first year of the agreement.
- The new formula for computing the cost-of-living allowance assures at least six cents of increase during the life of the new agreement. It could add as much as 16 cents to the cost-of-living allowance.
- One additional paid holiday. A set-aside paid holiday will be provided in 1970 if the allowance of the second cost-of-living adjustment exceeds 11 cents.

- Increased pension benefits.
- Improved disability and survivor benefits.
- Expanded hospital and medical expense benefits.
- Increased amounts and longer duration of supplemental unemployment benefits.
- A GM-UAW administered apprentice program.
- Changes in the program for employee training for skill trades classifications which provide additional opportunities for advancement.
- Additional relief time for assembly line jobs.
- Revised representation provisions.

HOUSE MEMBERS can be addressed in care of the House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Rep. William D. Ford, Democrat, 22401 Superior, Taylor, Mich. represents townships of Canton, Huron, Romulus, Sumpter and Van Buren; the cities of Allen Park, Belleville, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Lincoln Park, Melvindale, Westland, and Wayne.

Rep. Jack H. McDonald, Republican, of 15862 Denby, Redford township, represents townships of Brandon, Commerce, Farmington, Groveland, Highland, Independence, Lyon, Milford, Novi, Orion, Oxford, Rose, Springfield, Waterford, West Bloomfield and White Lake; cities of Farmington, Keego Harbor, Pontiac, South Lyon, Sylvan Lake, Walled Lake and Wixom; the part of Northville in Oakland County, Livonia, Redford township.

Marvin L. Esch, Republican, of 1821 Covington, Ann Arbor, represents the counties of Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe and Washtenaw and the townships of Plymouth and Northville and the city of Plymouth in Wayne County.

STATE SENATORS

Mrs. N. Lorraine Berbe, 24424 Fairmont, Dearborn, chairman of social services and retirement committee; member of health, highways, labor. District covers that part of Wayne County composed of the Township of Redford, part of the City of Dearborn and all but a fraction of Dearborn Township. Home telephone LO 5-1841.

George W. Kuhn, 7222 Cottonwood, Birmingham, chairman Committee on Corporations; member of health, social services and retirement and municipalities. District covers Plymouth and Northville townships, the cities of Plymouth, Livonia and the city of Northville lying both in Wayne and Oakland counties. Also the part of Oakland County west of the townships of Brandon, Independence, Waterford, Bloomfield and Southfield and west of the city of Southfield. This district also includes the cities of Sylvan Lake and Keego Harbor. Home telephone 628-8057.

REPRESENTATIVES

Raymond L. Baker, 32718 Grand River Ave., Farmington, chairman of the committee on conservation and recreation; member of insurance, liquor control and youth. District covers all the Oakland County townships of West Bloomfield and Farmington and all the cities of Farmington, Lathrop Village, and Keego Harbor plus all of the city of Southfield except that part south of Twelve Mile Road and east of Lahser Road. Home telephone 476-0776.

John Bennett, 10052 Mercedes, Detroit. Member of Legislative Retirement Board, and committee on insurance, retirement and tourist-industry relations. District covers all of Redford township. Home telephone 534-4242.

Louis E. Schmidt, 20405 Antago, Livonia, chairman of the committee on colleges and universities; member of civil rights, education and labor. District covers all of the township of Northville and the city of Northville and all of the city of Livonia, except that part of Livonia south of the C & O railroad between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads. Home telephone 474-1014.

James Tierney, 5633 Arcola, Garden City. Member of committees on economic development, education and public safety. District covers the City of Westland and Plymouth township and all of the cities of Plymouth and Garden City; also all of Westland north of Cherry Hill Road and west of the city limits of Garden City and west of Farmington Road. Home telephone 420-5166.

Richard A. Young, 24442 W. Warren, Dearborn Heights. Member of committees on public utilities, retirement and taxation. District covers that part of Dearborn township north of Cherry Hill Road; also that part of the city of Dearborn north of Cherry Hill Road and west of Outer Drive; also that part of the City of Westland east of Farmington Road and north of Garden City; also that part of Livonia city lying south of the C & O railroad between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads. Business telephone 274-2040.

Vincent J. Petlipren, 30810 Palmer Road, Westland. Member of committees on colleges and universities (vice chairman), state affairs.

Congress Studying Airports

The airport problem—from congestion to noise pollution—is receiving serious attention from Congress, says 10th District Rep. Jack McDonald, R-Redford.

"The Federal Airport Act, first passed in 1946 to make matching grants available for safety improvements, was extended last year through 1970. The extension authorized appropriations on a formula basis of \$75 million a year. Approximately \$1.1 billion has been spent or allocated in the program's 21 years."

"The Federal Aviation Administration estimated in a 1967 report that the cost of recommended improvements and new airports would be \$1,529,917,000 during a five-year period beginning in the 1968 fiscal year. These costs extended only to safety improvements."

"Transportation Secretary Alan S. Boyd estimates that \$3 billion must be spent by 1973 simply to meet 'our needs and not our desires' in airport development. Most of the costs 'should be borne by the users,' he said."

"A number of financing methods have been suggested, including higher aviation gas taxes and a \$1 'head tax' on each passenger ticket," McDonald says.

"The Airport Operators Council International, which represents local airport authorities, warns that vast expansion programs will create 'staggering financial problems' and suggests an airport trust fund patterned after the highway trust fund."

"A Senate bill would set up an airport development trust fund financed by higher aviation fuel taxes and a 2 percent surtax on passenger fares. The fund would subsidize local airport bonds and boost the present federal-aid program to \$150 million a year."

SBA Says It Made 64 Disaster Loans

Robert F. Phillips, regional director of the U.S. Small Business Administration, reports that a total of 64 disaster loans have been made in Oakland "aid Maroon County area to home owners and businessmen for damages caused by last summer's July 19th torrential rainstorm."

President Johnson directed the S.B.A. to declare the Oakland and Macomb Counties a disaster area and make available low interest rate loans to those affected from the floods. Phillips says this effort amounted to a total of \$185,350 in loans approved and dispersed by SBA in the last four months. These loans carry an interest rate to the borrower of 3 percent and repayments were geared to the applicant's ability to repay.

Victims of this storm—whether business concerns, homeowners or others—are eligible under this program to apply for loans to replace, repair or rebuild damaged property, real or personal, less any insurance proceeds, or any financial assistance. They have until Jan. 19th to apply to the S.B.A. in Detroit.

Levin's Job: Patch Legislator-Party Rift

By DON HOENESHELL

LANSING—Michigan Democrats get about today to pull together the fractured pieces of their party and fight Republicans at the polls with a unity harking back to the 1950s.

They said they will make room for the anti-LBJ Concerned Democrats, for youth, for remnants of the former Gov. G. Mennen Williams organization, for everyone who wants to work and win.

And Sunday they elected State Sen. Sander M. Levin, a Harvard-educated labor lawyer from Oakland County, as state chairman to succeed the resigned Zolton A. Ferency.

Delegates quickly adopted a resolution praising Ferency for his work as chairman since February 1963, stating his name "has become synonymous in this state with vigorous and articulate expression of the principles of the Democratic Party."

Ferency became chairman after stretches as chairman by the Workmen's Compensation Commission, member of the Liquor Control Commission, executive secretary to former Gov. John B. Swainson and in 1966 the party's candidate against Gov. Romney.

WAYNE—1971 delegates, Caroline Maggio and Glenn Hartsell, of Redford; and Oakland 19th delegates Dorothy Olson, of Waterford Township, and Otis Lawrence, of Pontiac, all voted for Levin on the first ballot.

Levin's wife, Vicki, salubrious at his side as delegates heard Matthewson question whether the party should "experiment with its leadership" by naming a part-time chairman.

He said it would be the first statewide party organization in the country to be headed by a state legislator and a part-time chairman.

Robert Craig, president of UAW Local 741 in Flint, withdrew.

Levin was nominated by George Googasian, Oakland County chairman, who said Levin would be a "dynamic kind of leader" who would "both build the party and make room for debate within the Democratic Party."

On a state level, Democrats said their first task would be to wrest control of the House from Republicans next year.



SENATOR Sander Levin of Berkeley will give the Michigan Democratic Party a suburban look after his election as state chairman last weekend.

Open Housing's Chances Dim-Kuhn

State Sen. George W. Kuhn (R-West Bloomfield) says that the prospects of enacting a statewide open housing law during the current special legislative session seemed almost doomed when the Senate refused to take up the issue until the court reorganization bill was passed.

The reason, said Kuhn, was that the Senate feels the number one issue for the call of the special session was to carry out the constitutional mandate to reorganize the state's lower court system.

"I'll predict frankly that if we don't get a court reorganization bill passed by mid-December the open housing bill will die a natural death. The enacting of a court reorganization bill requires a two-thirds vote in both houses, and this will be extremely tough. That means 74 votes in the House and 26 votes in the Senate," Kuhn said.

"OTHER REASONS discussed in the Senate Republican caucus last Tuesday for not tackling the open housing bill first were:

- (1) "Questionable constitutionality of the bill.
- (2) "Failure to enact or to consider to enact crime or anti-race measures.
- (3) "Disput with attempts to swap votes on such major issues.
- (4) "The feeling by many that the open housing bill does not directly resolve the critical housing shortage and the need for low cost housing."

THE DEMOCRATS were without a state chairman for 44 minutes after Kenneth Hyton read Ferency's official resignation. Ferency, under fire for his anti-Johnson stance on the Vietnam war, said in his Nov. 27 letter he would resign effective Jan. 15 or when a successor was chosen.

"Perhaps in the future there will be new causes and new vineyards in which we can work together," his letter said.

Levin, the 37-year-old legislative workhorse who with others have rewritten much of the state's labor law in the past three years, was elected as the roll call hit the 12th district. That gave him more than the 42 votes needed from the 83 delegates present. Former Rep. Floyd Matthews, of Boston Harbor, who works in Garden City, had two at that point. He then asked for a unanimous ballot for Levin.

HE SAID HE wants to involve legislators and other elected officials from top to bottom, schedule a series of issues conferences around the state, promote coordination and communication in the party through a separate series of skull sessions at all levels.

"We're on the move," he said. "The question is how we are going to solve our problems. Are we going to solve them by violent words and violent actions?"

"Or are we going to solve them by debate, discussion, dissent and then decision? We can build this party and win. We can do both... and I plan to work without cessation to accomplish both."

"I would hope my work in the Legislature would let us better focus the issues to accomplish both," he said. "We would hope to close the gap between the legislators and the party."

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Party Budget Unbalanced, But Dems Aren't Worried

LANSING—Democrats today said they have enough in the bank to operate state headquarters until mid-January but aren't worried about the future despite a debt of \$110,787.

The State Central Committee accepted a 1968 budget \$40,112 out of balance to be fixed by "projects yet to be determined."

"It was clear party delegates do not expect their new state chairman, Sen. Sander M. Levin, to draw the full \$22,500 salary his predecessor, Zolton A. Ferency, left."

Levin gets \$15,000 a year as a state senator and most insiders assume he will get an additional sum from the party but just how much is uncertain.

DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS has seven vacancies at the moment, ranging from a \$15,000 a year public relations director, to a \$1,500 a year part-time receptionist.

The budget for 1968 will be \$229,112, with certain revenues

pegged at \$249,000, with \$55,500 anticipated to be the biggest source—voluntary contributions.

Delegate Willie Baxter, of Detroit's first district, got a promise from the state central committee that any new staff would be integrated at both professional and clerical levels.

JAMES HARRISON, a top aide to Ferency and now Ingham County chairman, asked for assurances that the party machinery would not be used to back any candidate who wants to run against President Johnson.

He was told the party does not crank up its machinery until after the national convention.

State Rep. William Ryan, minority leader in the House, and Sen. Jerome P. Hart, a party leader in the Senate, gave the delegates a status report on legislation of the special session now underway.

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