

Steelworkers Union May Open Negotiations for Guaranteed Annual Wage

Union Doesn't Want To Renew Long Term Auto Industry Pacts

Detroit —(U.P.)— The auto industry and the CIO United Auto Workers, knee-deep in negotiations for new labor contracts, agree on one thing: The five-year contracts signed in 1950 worked out fine for everyone concerned.

The industry enjoyed uninterrupted production. The workers lost little time from strikes. Most of them averaged better than 40 hours of work a week. Their pay envelopes grew fatter from automatic cost-of-living increases.

Now, as the 1950 contracts are about to expire, the industry would like to negotiate similar long term agreements.

But the union doesn't want them. It would like the new contracts to run for one year, or at the most for two years.

This is one of the major areas of disagreement in the negotiations now under way between the union and the auto producers.

How firm either side intends to stand remains to be seen.

UAW President Walter Reuther admits the union made a wise decision in signing five-year contracts in 1950. The union made steady advances under the contracts.

Through the cost-of-living formula and the automatic "improvement factor" increases, auto workers got pay boosts totaling 44 cents an hour during the period.

At General Motors, which turned out half the nation's cars

in the five years, the workers lost an average of only 33 minutes per man each year because of work stoppages. In 1954, only three minutes per man were lost.

For the industry, sales and production boomed between 1950 and 1955 and the auto com-

Youth Legislature Delegates Leave

Four Medford delegates to the annual Youth Legislature at Salem left here by car this morning for the three-day session at the State Capitol.

They were accompanied by Bob Jones, secretary of the Medford YMCA. The youth government program is for delegates from Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y clubs throughout Oregon, who prepare bills for introduction to the model legislative session, and follow them through the same procedures used by the real legislature.

Medford delegates include Charles Langston, reporter for the group; Larry Tolle, sergeant at arms, and Pat Johnston and Johnny Vale.

The group will return Saturday evening.

Lowell Edwards New Crater Lions Leader

Lowell Edwards was elected president of the Crater Lions club at a recent election, it was announced today. He and other new officers will be installed at a meeting at Tally Ho inn in June.

Also elected were Dan Dwyer, Paul Shaffer and Marvin Hart, vice-presidents; Jim Armonson, secretary; Jack McCray, treasurer; Cliff Ouellette, tail twister; Lee Minkler, lion tamer, and Dr. Jack Ingram and Lon Skinner, directors.

Lloyd Evans is immediate past president of the club, and served as chairman of the election committee.

Industry's Biggest Pay Hike Demand Being Considered

Pittsburgh —(U.P.)— Possibly the highest wage demand ever made in the history of the CIO United Steelworkers today faced the nation's basic steel industries.

The industry, currently operating at near capacity, was asked to grant a "substantial" wage increase for some 600,000 basic steelworkers represented by the USW now earning an average \$2.23 an hour. The industry was also asked to give earliest possible consideration to a guaranteed annual wage.

USW President David J. McDonald indicated demands adopted by the union's wage-policy committee here Wednesday may exceed 18 1/2 cents an hour.

"In the past we've gotten increases of 18 1/2 cents an hour (in 1946) and 16 cents an hour," McDonald said, "but I don't say that is a substantial figure as of today."

The powerful policy group's demands paved the way for negotiations with the steelmakers producers, headed by U. S. Steel Corp., traditional industry pacesetter, are currently operating at 96.7 per cent of practical capacity.

McDonald said he will serve as chairman of a union negotiating committee for all of the "Big Six," which in addition to U. S. Steel includes Bethlehem, Republic, Jones & Laughlin, Inland Steel and Youngstown Sheet & Tube.

"We will definitely press for settlement with all six companies at the same time," McDonald said.

The steelworker chief said he hopes "to have agreements written before the June 30 deadline." The USW will be free to strike after that date if its wage demands are not met.

Guaranteed Annual Wage

While present basic steel industry contracts with the union allow discussion only on wage rates in this year's negotiations, McDonald said wherever permitted the union "definitely" will demand a guaranteed annual wage.

A number of fabricating steel companies whose contracts expire this summer do not have such a ban on demands outside wages. The USW represents another 600,000 workers in the fabricating industry.

In adopting its undisclosed wage demand, the 170-man wage-policy committee said the "economic needs of the members of the USW, their increasing productivity, the prosperous state of the industry, and the economic situation of the country as a whole" require the basic steel industry to give "favorable consideration" to the request.

Colored Pictures Of China Slated

Colored pictures of South China and Hong Kong will be shown tonight at the Medford Assembly of God, 1108 West Main st., by the Rev. and Mrs. Harland Park who have served as missionaries in China for more than 24 years. The service will begin at 7:45 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Park expect to return to Hong Kong early in June after having been in the States for a year on furlough. For nine years Mr. Park served as superintendent of the South China field for the Foreign Missions Department of the Assembly of God. The public is invited to attend the service.

Margaret's Romance Back on Front Pages

London —(U.P.)— A statement by the Queen's chaplain that he was "not very happy" about the Church of England attitude toward divorce brought Princess Margaret's reported romance back to the front pages today.

The tabloid Daily Mirror reported the statement by the Rev. Charles Earle Raven under a front-page banner headline. Next to it was a picture of Princess Margaret as she appeared at a folk dance festival Wednesday night.

Reports of Margaret's rumored romance with RAF Group Capt. Peter Townsend, a divorced man, have periodically made the British front pages for the past two years.

The Church of England does not recognize the remarriage of divorced persons and the juxtaposition of Raven's statement and the princess' picture revived all the rumors.

TOUGH CODGER
Bronte, Ont. —(U.P.)— Alfred Wright, 100 years old today, recalled that during his "pretty good life" he "smoked, drank and cussed as much as anyone."

Child Guidance Group To Meet

The second annual meeting of the Southern Oregon Child Guidance Clinic association will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 16, in St. Mark's church guild hall, Fifth st. and Oakdale ave. All members of the association, many of whom joined during the recent membership drive, are invited to attend.

The speaker will be Mrs. John Hills Gubser, assistant superintendent of the state department of education, whose topic will be "An Ounce of Prevention." Her talk will be at 8:30 p.m., following a social and business meeting. Officers and directors of the association, which is organized to operate the Child Guidance Clinic here, will be named.

Dessert will be served at the beginning of the meeting, and music will be furnished by the Ashland High school orchestra. No admission will be charged, but a collection will be made to defray expenses of the refreshments.

Total U.S. milk production for the calendar year 1955 will probably equal that of 1954, the U.S.D.A. has reported.

Jackson County Men Qualify as Engineers

Six Jackson county men have received certificates for practice of professional engineering, it has been announced by the state board of engineering examiners. There were 101 certificates issued this week by the board in Portland.

Medford men are William Warren Brawn, Elwood Brewster Hedberg, Robert F. Scherzinger and Robert Mathias Smith. Dale Cobleigh, Phoenix, and Allen A. Alsing, Ashland, also received their certificates.

The certificates were issued after the men successfully passed the state engineering examination.

JAIL BREAK

Columbus, Miss. —(U.P.)— The next time a jail break is reported in Columbus, authorities are going to ask, "Which way?" Sheriff C. E. Farmer said Harry Burns and Lewis Montgomery, after escaping the county jail, broke into the city jail to free their suspected accomplice and fled after almost succeeding.

There are 64 mountain peaks in the United States 14,000 or more feet above sea level.

NO FALSIES ALLOWED
Washington —(U.P.)— "Falsies" won't be allowed in this year's Miss Washington contest. Radio station WWDC, the contest's sponsor, said "current styling of swim suits is so graceful that the insertion of extra padding would detract rather than add to the overall picture."

Dead line for Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday.
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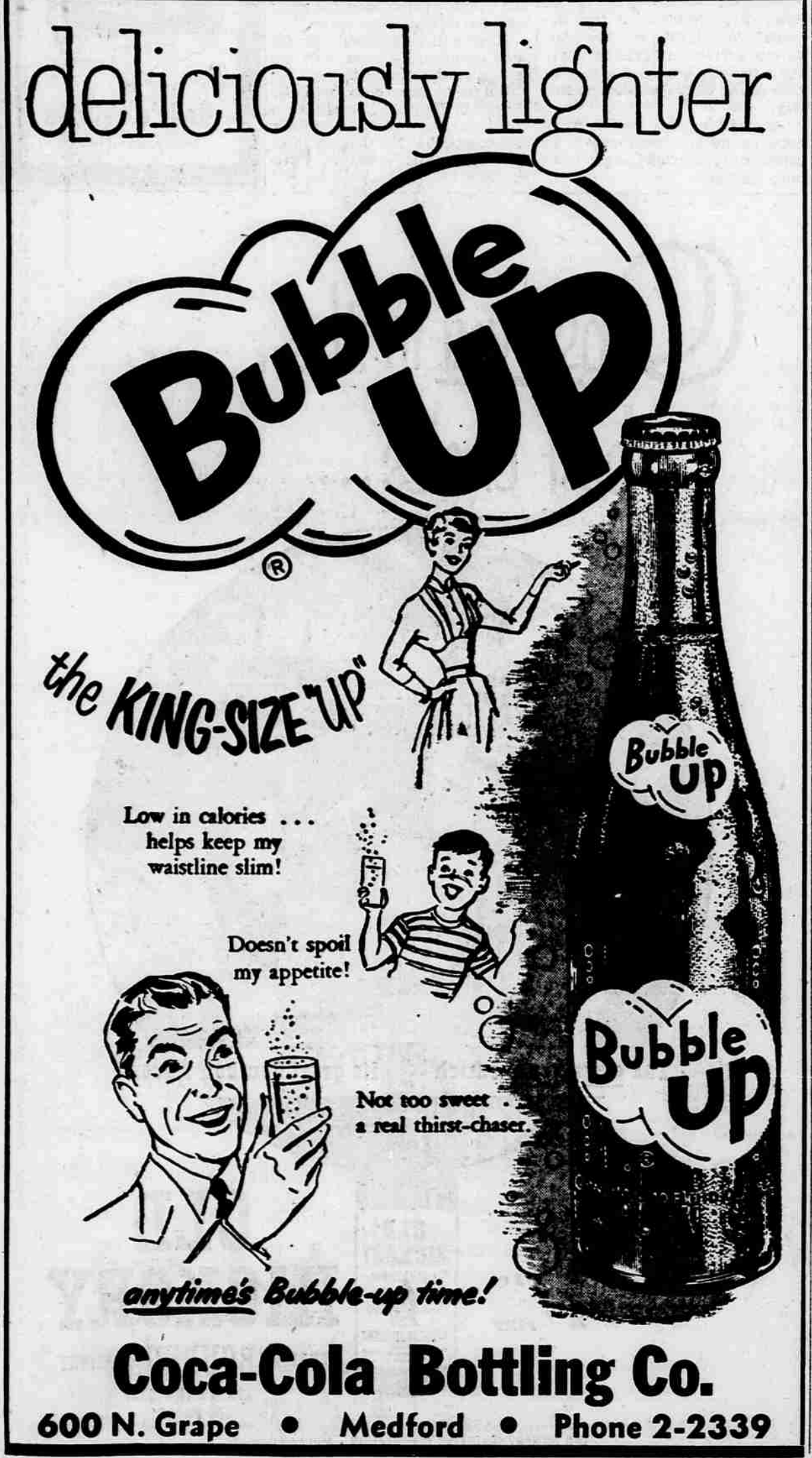
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200 Eighth Graders Visit Crater High

Central Point — About 200 eighth graders from School District 6 and four elementary districts toured Crater High school yesterday afternoon during the annual Eighth Grade visitation day.

Students from elementary schools in Central Point, Gold Hill and Sams Valley, and from Howard, Lone Pine, West Side and Oak Grove elementary school districts toured the building after a short program.



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