



NEWSCHART SHOWS the up and downs in the electoral vote since 1900 when McKinley defeated Bryan. The Democrats remained in the basement until 1912, when Wilson defeated Taft, the GOP incumbent. A split occurred in the Republican Party during this election, and Theodore Roosevelt formed the Bull Moose Party which garnered 88 electoral votes. After eight years of Democratic rule, Harding in 1920 defeated Cox to put the Republicans back in power for 12 years. In 1932 the people wanted a change, and Franklin Roosevelt put the Democrats back in the driver's seat where they have remained for the past 20 years. During the 1936 election Franklin Roosevelt showed he was the champion vote-getter by amassing 523 electoral votes, an all-time high.

Auto Workers Want Pay Hikes Above GM's Cost of Living Contract

By GLENN ENGLE

DETROIT (AP)—Bound by contract until 1955, the CIO United Auto Workers are asking General Motors to go beyond their historic cost-of-living pact and grant immediate wage and pension benefits.

If G. M., the industry's pattern setter for years, agrees, the union presumably will ask Ford, Chrysler and other auto companies with similar contracts to do likewise.

The UAW disclosed yesterday that informal discussions on the subject, as secret at the contract negotiations themselves, have been held recently. But the talks reportedly have been brief so far. General Motors declined comment on their nature.

The union's National General Motors Council, representing some 250,000 G. M. workers throughout the country, touched off the drive for contract improvements.

Emphasizing that it was not attempting to reopen the non-renewable contract, the council said additional benefits were needed to bring the contract, signed in pre-Korea, May, 1950, abreast of current living conditions. So it adopted a resolution asking the industry's biggest producer to "implement"

the agreement by:

1. Boosting the guaranteed annual 4-cent hourly rate — the so-called annual improvement factor — to 5 cents.
2. Adding 2 1/2 of the 25 cents an hour gained in cost-of-living adjustments since the pact was signed to base pay. This would mean that only 5 cents could be taken away if the cost-of-living dives sharply between now and May, 1955.
3. Adjusting pensions of G. M.

workers who have retired under the contract to give them the same purchasing power they had when the agreement was signed. The union did not say how much of a raise would be needed in the current maximum of \$125 a month, including social security.

General Motors and the UAW first negotiated the now much-maligned escalator system hitching wages to living costs in 1948. That was a two-year pact. In 1950 they revised it somewhat and extended it for five years.

Newly virtually all the industry's million workers are covered by cost-of-living agreements, providing a 1-cent pay boost or cut for each 1.14 rise or fall in the Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumers price index. They also are covered by the 4-cent "improvement" clauses and similar pension arrangements.

The UAW G. M. Council pointed out that the G. M. contract has been widely copied in other indus-

tries and that in some of them cost-of-living gains had been added to base pay.

The council said the 1-cent increase in the improvement factor was needed to keep that factor at a ratio of 2 1/2 per cent of the average worker's pay — which it was in 1950 but is not now that the average has gone up to roughly \$2 an hour.

For some time now there have been rumors that the UAW would seek to put its pension system on some kind of an escalator. The G. M. request was the first move in that direction.

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IWA Rejects No Work Plan

PORTLAND (AP)—The CIO Woodworkers Wednesday turned down a "no contract, no work" proposal at their convention here.

The proposal was offered in a resolution by E. J. Egan, local union leader, to bring more pressure in negotiations.

Another resolution submitted by the Egan delegates, however, won convention backing. It called for repeal of the Smith Act under which arrests on Communist charges are being made. The resolution said the act was "endangering the freedom of every active union member or anyone else who struggles for the rights of the people."

Karley Larson, a delegate to the convention, was one of those arrested Wednesday by the FBI

under the Smith Act.

The convention also ordered its officers to find out why six delegates from British Columbia were not permitted by immigration officials to enter the United States to attend the convention.

President Stewart Alsburg of the British Columbia District Council said some of them had opposed Communists and left wingers in an earlier union fight.

Greater emphasis on wage increases, a six-hour day and other contract improvements were endorsed by the delegates.

A resolution charging that union organizers were paid wages below scale was tabled and union officials were instructed to take up the matter.

The Reedport local said organizers get \$8.83 a day, compared with \$17 daily for industry workers.

But Claude Ballard, vice president, said organizers got about \$700 a month, including expenses, a sum he considered ample. He said any increase would require a boost in per capita dues under a constitutional amendment. The delegates already agreed not to amend the constitution.

The union gave the recently organized South a representative on the executive board without the right to vote.

Senator Wants Army Group

SEATTLE (AP)—Sen. Magnuson (D-Wash.), has proposed creating a new Army group including Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana to give the four states better administration and protection.

The area now is part of the Sixth Army Corps, along with California, Utah, Nevada and Arizona and is administered from San Francisco.

Magnuson wrote Secretary of the Army Pace Wednesday that it "seems illogical that Army installations and activities in the Northwest can be administered as well from San Francisco as they could be from separate headquarters at Fort Lewis or Fort Lawton."

Magnuson said the present Sixth Army Corps area is larger than any of the other five Army groups within the continental United States.

Ships Stop In Astoria

ASTORIA (AP)—Half a dozen ships are to be here before this week is out, to take on cargoes of wheat and flour.

They include the Danish steamer *Nikobar*, loading 2,000 long tons of wheat; the *Castleville*, a Norwegian ship picking up 400 tons of flour; and the French liberty ship, *Canche*, arriving Friday to take on 400 tons of flour.

All these cargoes are destined for the Orient, port manager James Bowler said.

Tentative arrangements have been made for four other ships to load this week.

Two Held On Conspiracy

ALBUQUERQUE (AP)—A military policeman and his girl friend pleaded guilty in District Court yesterday to charges of conspiring to hang her husband so they could marry.

Cpl. William E. Oliver, 22, and Mrs. Wanda White, 29, are charged with conspiring to hang William White, 41, Mrs. White's third husband, in a public park.

An anonymous telephone call tipped police to the plot and they hid in ambush as Mrs. White drove up to the park last Thursday. Oliver didn't show up at all, but in a statement shouldered the blame for the whole thing.

District Judge E. F. Deacon Arledge will pass sentence Monday.

In their written statements to police, they said they decided to hang the husband to a tree after forcing him at gunpoint onto the fender of a car.

Mrs. White said she still loves her husband.

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