

DETROIT REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT RECORDS

BOX 3 OF 16

FOLDER 15

CHRYSLER ELDON SAFETY
UAW MATERIAL 1970

OFFICIAL BULLETIN
LOCAL 961 UAW

SPECIAL REPORT

FIVE TOP OFFICERS CONFERENCE REPORT OF LOCAL 961 U.A.W.

WE UNCOVERED (THE BOTTLE NECK) OF OUR GRIEVANCE PROCEEDURE WHICH WAS HOLDING UP MANY CASES THAT WERE DENYING OUR PEOPLE MONEYS AND WORK OPPORTUNITIES TO WHICH THEY WERE ENTITLED.

WE HAVE FORCED OUT OF THE 3rd STEP THROUGH THIS CONFERENCE ROUGHLY 150 GRIEVANCES, FROM WHICH WE HAVE 15 PERSONS RETURNING TO WORK, WHO WERE DISCHARGED, MANY RECORDS SET STRAIGHT WHERE UNJUSTIFIABLE CHARGES WERE MADE AGAINST OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

MANY CASES HAVE BEEN SETTLED WITH MUTUAL AGREEMENT ON BACK PAY ADJUSTMENTS CLAIMS, SAFETY HAZARDS ARE BEING CORRECTED.

WE WISH FURTHER TO INFORM YOU THAT BROTHER RICHARDSON, DID INFORM ALL STEWARDS AND OFFICERS WHO WERE SUSPENDED OR DISCHARGED DUE TO THE ALLEGED WORK STOPPAGE, THAT THEY WOULD BE INTERVIEWED ON FRIDAY, MAY 29, 1970 TO BE RETURNED TO WORK THE FOLLOWING MONDAY, AND HE FURTHER TOLD THEM TO STAY AWAY FROM THE PLANT GATES. HOWEVER, FOUR FOLLOWED THE INSTRUCTIONS AND HAVE BEEN WORKING SINCE JUNE 1, 1970, THE OTHERS DID REAPPEAR AT THE GATES, GOT PHOTOGRAPHED BY MANAGEMENT, AND COMPOUNDED THE POSSIBILITY OF THEIR REINSTATEMENT.

WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY MR. VERGIL ANDERSON FROM CORPORATION THAT NO TRANSFER OF PEOPLE FROM DEPARTMENTS 19 & 25 WILL BE MADE AT THIS TIME. WE PROTESTED ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE P&M AGREEMENT WHICH SPELLS OUT HOW TRANSFERS SHALL BE MADE AND MANAGEMENT'S EFFORT DID NOT FIT EITHER PROVISION BY CONTRACT.

WE ARE CONDUCTING QUARTERLY RAFFLES TO RAISE MONEY TO ESTABLISH OUR GOOD & WELFARE FUND, FROM WHICH WE HOPE TO REPLACE MONEY TO THE GENERAL FUND, THAT WE PAY OUR DISCHARGED STEWARDS AND OFFICERS.

FRATERNALLY YOURS,

THE FIVE TOP OFFICERS
LOCAL 961 U.A.W.

JF/cb
opeiuh2aflcio
6-10-70

In Memoriam

GARY THOMPSON, Local 961 Member

A youthful jitney driver who was accidentally killed on May 27, 1970, by a jitney with faulty brakes, no emergency which had been grieved by his chief steward many weeks prior to the accident. The company saw no need for repairs. We hope that this costly tragedy will serve to open the company's eyes to the union's complaints. Our deepest sympathy to Gary's family.

Local 961 Officers
and Executive Board Members

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Make This a Good Summer; The Decision Is Up to You

By **ELROY RICHARDSON**
President

Not many years ago most communities looked forward to summer vacation. The picture of a barefoot

lad wending his way to the fishing hole was still a common and cherished sight. Summer was pleasant and there was plenty to do. Oh, the kids got under foot a little before September rolling around, but they weren't any real trouble.

Yes, for those of us over thirty, looking back on the last day of school in May or June usually brings nostalgic remembrances.

Summers were just as long and hot then, but not in the way we think of those terms today. There always seemed to be something to do, someplace to go, and an odd job to be had. Life was much simpler.

DIFFERENT NOW

Drinking, vandalism, and

has changed now. The youngsters are no longer at the fishing hole. Instead today's youth more often faces a long, hot summer on steaming city streets — three months of boredom and frustration.

As a result, summer has come to stand for trouble — Big Trouble! It is a time when juvenile vandalism sky rockets — when gang fights and riots simmer and erupt. It is a time when the temptation to indulge in drug abuse, sexual promiscuity, and youthful crime is greatest among masses of unsupervised, unemployed, and unmotivated teen-agers just hanging around waiting for something to happen.

YOUR PLANS

But what about you? Are you going to live through another summer "accidentally"?

RECORDING SECRETARY REPORTS

Propaganda Being Circulated Has Goal of 'Rule or Ruin'

By **JAMES R. FRANKLIN**
Recording Secretary

(Continued from April Issue)

In the April Issue of our Criterion, I outlined to you much that is transpiring these trying times within

this youthful brother of ours.

But each of us in this life only plays a small part and when our act is over and the final curtain's drawn, the show doesn't stop there. So each of us remember we have a job

how can we expect them to be pleased with us.

The man who has done nothing for himself nor anyone else, how can anyone who strives to better the lives of all mankind find favor in him?



November 12, 1970

To Art Hughes, Assistant Director - National Chrysler Department

From Lloyd D. Utter, Safety Director

Subject Chrysler Corporation: Eldon Axel Plant - Detroit, Michigan - LU 961

Complaint: Occupational Safety

A week after investigating the death of Gary Thompson, 22 years of age - badge #252776 I returned to the above plant and joined you in a complete tour of these facilities. We were accompanied by Messrs. George Moxley, Corporate Safety Staff, Virgil Anderson and Joseph Jefferey Corporate Staff; Homer Jolly, International Representative; and Brothers Walker and Thomas LU 961.

Following are my observations and recommendations:

GENERAL

1. Housekeeping: Again I repeat my remarks of my previous report--- It is not possible to have a going safety program without maintaining a housekeeping program that functions. There seems to be no concern about housekeeping in this plant --- and the safety program reflects this lack of concern. Immediate steps must be taken to clean this plant up -- an all out program then must be maintained.
2. Industrial Hygiene. During the tour a number of possible occupational health hazards were observed. Surveys should be made in the following areas.
 - A - Dept. 70 cover weld, sput, smoke, fume, lighting, noise (air leak)
 - B - Upsetters. Smoke & fume.
 - C - Dept. 72 lights, smoke mist, exhaust ventilation?
 - D - Dept. 80 lights.
 - E - Dept. 77 heat treat smoke, lights?

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Dept. 70

1. Spot - cover weld - use of wood block to stop run of machine must be stopped - hazard of pinch point is setup here. (was discontinued at time of inspection) Must not be permitted in the future.

Press Group. Clean mud and dirt from floors. Keep oil and water off floors.

3. Upsetters. Keep prime movers enclosure in place whenever operating.

Dept. 72

4. Mill & 5 way Snyder. Provide proper guarding. Control chips and mud. Bay X 7 Clean and repair drinking fountain. Sanitize daily.
#AA2 - 3 BB 2-3 Repair leaks. Y 11 Repair oil leak overhead.
Y6 MM5 and 1 Pallard. Repair oil leaks to correct possible fire hazard.

Dept. 82

5. Repair oil leaks and cleanup area and maintain in a safe condition.

Dept. 70

6. Establish good housekeeping procedures and maintain.
AB 16 - 23 Repair oil leak to correct fire hazard. B 20 - 21 Machine #5 upsetter repair leaks and keep oil and water off floors. Machine #2 repair oil leak. Keep skids and stock out of designated aisles. Housekeeping very poor - must be improved. Keep floors free of oil, mud, water, scrap and chips. Yoder cut-off. Guard chain drive. Platform and gratings at machines must be cleaned up, kept clean and in safe condition.

Dept. 73

Low Swing - LRA 2774. Repair oil leaks and equip with shielding. Propane Tanks. Remove from work area and do not change in work area. Do not permit empty tanks to accumulate in work areas. Eating Facilities. Maintain in a clean and sanitary condition. Do not permit hanging and storage of personal clothing over tables. Flumes. Clean and maintain in a clear condition. Machines. General in this area - clean-up and maintain in a clean, sanitary and safe condition. Aisles. Clear - and do not permit designated aisles to be blocked. Drains. Sewers not to be permitted to be open and uncovered. Cranes. Suspended load are not to be moved over workers. Maintain horns and/or warning devices in working order. Griner. Repair oil leak and repair oil pan. Keep floor clean of oil and repair holes. Toilet. L-33 This facility uncomfortably hot. Ventilate or control heat to provide a proper facility.

Dept 81 Final Assembly

8. Entire area in need of a general clean-up - then proper conditions must be maintained.

Dept. 76

9. Aisles. Clear and maintain in a safe condition. Stretcher - access to emergency equipment must be maintained at all times. Keep access to eating area open. Repair and maintain water fountain in a sanitary, working condition.

Dept. 80

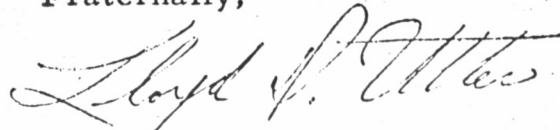
Clean-up Area and Maintain. Clean and maintain lights.

Dept. 71

11. Arcadia. Keep oil off floor.
Panel Box. Repair broken door and latch and keep closed. Master door disconnect should not allow other 3 doors to be opened until main door disconnects power. Keep switches and relays properly covered. Storage was good in this area. Keep oil off floors and repair leaky machines.
Bakers. Platforms at these machines were at various levels and should be evened up to eliminate trip hazards. Repair holes and do not permit slippery conditions.
Lathes - Low Swing. Equip with chip guards and supervise their use.
Machines - Cut Out. Properly enclose wiring. Keep drain safely covered.
Arc Welding. Properly shield flash.
Acme #31-2280 Replace Gear Covers. Repair Platform. (This operation was immediately shut down and corrections were made) #2159. Cover on back removed - replace. Keep wiring enclosed and eliminate temporary wiring.
Grinders. Guards must be kept in place when this equipment is being operated.

All of these recommendations were discussed with you and Representatives of Local Union 961 and Chrysler Corporate and Plant Management. The recommended program should be well under way. At the time of the meeting I stressed that conditions were deplorable and that I was shocked to find conditions so different from the usual good standards maintained in Chrysler establishments. Only immediate and continued attention by local management and close cooperation between LU961 and Management can bring about proper, safe work conditions and then maintain them.

Faternally,



Lloyd D. Utter,
Safety Director

LDU/at
opeiu42

cc: Doug Fraser
Homer Jolly