

Both sides ready to talk at Efco

Strikers remaining across the driveway of Economy Forms Corp. (EFCO) will get a slight boost this third week when they begin drawing strike pay as union leaders and management each wait to be invited to the negotiating table.

Workers struck the Georgetown company March 12 after contract negotiations broke off late February.

In an interview on the picket line Reg Benoit, president of the local, told the Herald the union was "waiting to hear from the company." He said that other than statements

Strike enters its third week

from "lower echelon members of their staff" the union has "received no news from them."

Tom Brotherton, manager at EFCO, said in a telephone interview, "Anytime the union wants to come and negotiate, we're ready."

"Negotiations remain open," Brotherton said, adding that no date has been set for the next meeting. The union has "given no in-

formation," he said, of when that next meeting will be. "The ball is in their court."

On the picket line next to an old van which serves as strike headquarters where strikers take turns sheltering themselves from crisp spring winds, Benoit said the strike was a burden on a lot of members, especially those who did not have part-time jobs.

Strike pay, which comes

"Morale is very high," on the picket line, so much so that the executives were surprised, Benoit said. "It seems to be getting higher."

"We're open to talking," he said, "ready to listen if they have a better offer to table."

Tom Brotherton termed the continuation of the strike "unfortunate" and said the company offer was "substantial."

He said the company had offered a 17 and a half percent increase in the basic wage with a cost of living clause and productivity increase in the last two years of a three-year contract.

The company was also offering increases in the weekly indemnity rate, in holidays and in life insurance as well as a boot allowance for one year in its package, Brotherton said.

When they struck the workers were getting from \$3.55 to \$4.55 per hour, with most averaging at "about \$3.80," he said.

In addition to a dental plan and an eye care plan, the union wants the company to supply workwear, Benoit said. Gloves, shop coats, coveralls and safety boots are all supplied by the workers. Sometimes boots, which range in price from \$15 to \$50 depending on the number of safety features into them, need to be replaced twice a year, he said.

The union is asking for a two-year contract with \$1 per hour increase in the first year and a dollar an hour the second year, "which would bring us up to catch-up plus benefits," Benoit said.

Superintendent Schwant was unwilling to lay the blame for the damage on the striking workers. He said that up to the present time the strike has been "orderly."

"The pickets have shown responsibility," he said. "The police have had good cooperation with the pickets."

He added "We hope it continues."

Town skaters competing in several competitions

Several skaters competed in the Sarnia Winter Free Skating Competition held between March 19 and 21.

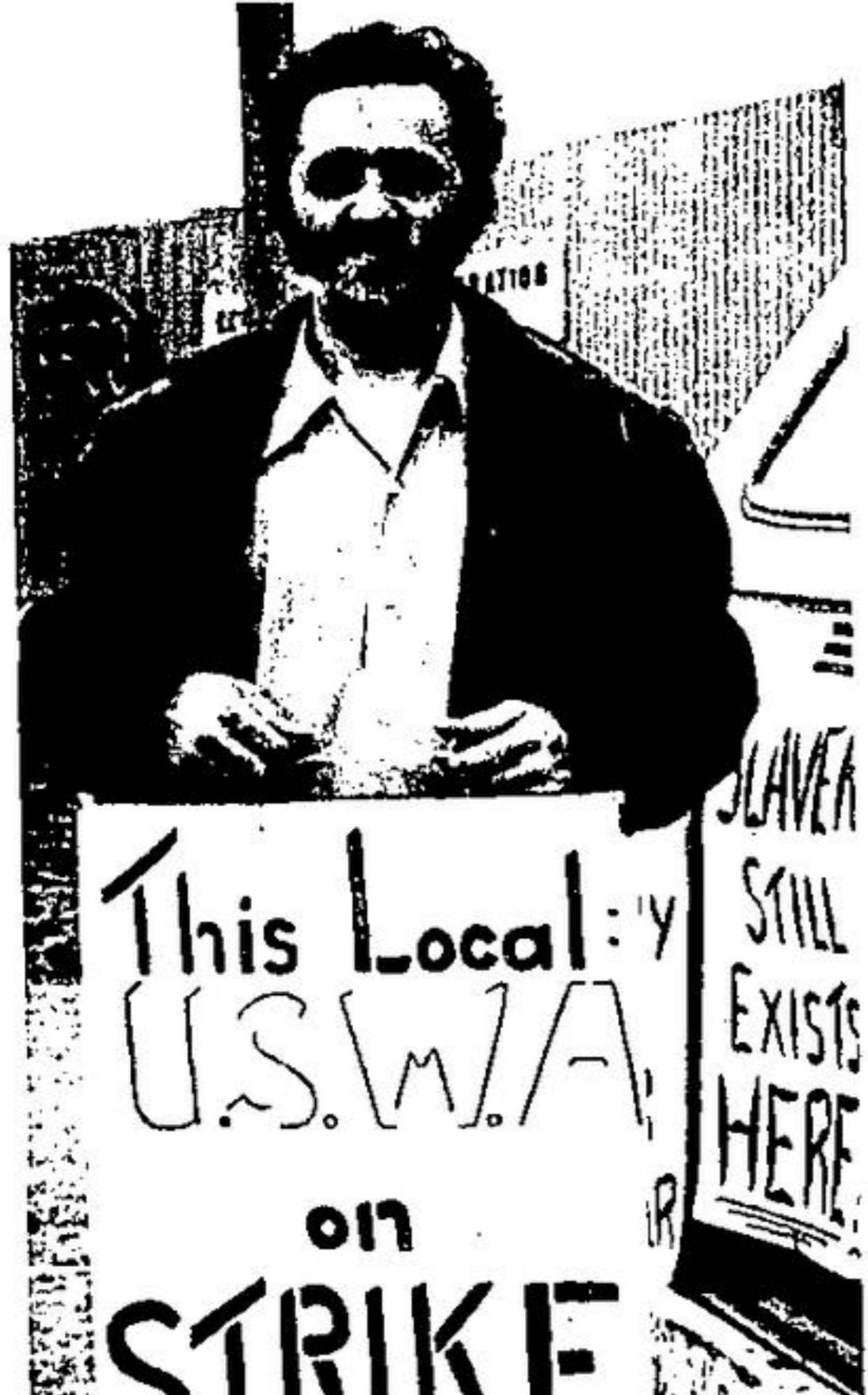
Gale Shanks in preliminary ladies under 13 years old was fifth in her flight.

Lana Ellison in first figure ladies, 13 to 16, was ninth in her flight. Carol-Anne Lovell in second figures under 13 years was sixth in her flight. Renee Pilote in third figure ladies, 13 to 16, was third in her flight.

Eddie Howards in men's bronze interpretive was eighth but was forced to withdraw from a second class due to injury.

Ron Sparkes and Terri Lumbe competed in the junior bronze dance class at the Cricket Club Invitational Competition on March 27.

Numerous skaters will be going to other competitions in the near future and we wish them well.



ARTHUR RAPOSO looks forward to getting strike pay this week. Local 7337 of the United Steelworkers of America are in the third week of their strike at Economy Forms Corp. in Georgetown.

Vandalism at Efco plant

A break and entry which occurred during the early morning hours Friday at strike-bound Economy Forms Corp. on Todd Road in Georgetown's industrial area is being investigated by the police.

In an interview Police Superintendent Floyd Schwant said that damage to the plant, which turns out precast concrete floors, amounted to approximately \$1000. An outside light and an interior window were smashed by the vandals who also spilt 80 gallons of oil on the floor and cut the cable on a tow motor.

The break and entry came to light at 7:45 a.m. Friday morning, the 21st day of the strike by members of local 7337 of the United Steelworkers of America. Superintendent Schwant said that a police patrol which passed by the plant at 5:30 a.m. noticed no strikers in the area. The police have some suspects in the case.

Until the investigation is completed the point of entry could not be revealed the superintendent said.

"This kind of damage is vigorously investigated," the superintendent said. "We don't

let things like this die too easily."

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Co-op nursery school for Hornby

A co-operative nursery school for the Hornby-Ashgrove area is presently being organized by a group of parents who feel that the need for such facilities in that area is high.

First step in their organizational activities was a secret survey of many parents in that area from which it was concluded that a nursery school program operating two or three half-days per week could be the most feasible method of operation.

Pat Thornton, RR2 Georgetown, and Karen Midwinter, RR2 Georgetown, are heading up the committee looking into the nursery school. The other members of the committee include Geraldine Kuanien, Carol Harris, Nancy Lussel, Glenda Barton, Mary Hertz, Jan Costin, Val Griffin and Gine Hatchings, principal of Pine View Public School.

Parents of pre-schoolers in a wide rural area around Hornby, extending west to Speyside, who are interested in the co-operative nursery school idea are asked to contact Mrs. Thornton or Mrs. Midwinter.

The school would be operated as a non-profit school under the direction of a qualified instructor with assistance from parents.

Fractured Fairy Tales

April 7 at 4:30 pm Theatre Aquarius brings its musical adventure "Fractured Fairy Tales" to Georgetown for a single performance sponsored by the Halton Hills Public Libraries.

The Theatre Aquarius troupe retells in words and music, familiar fairy tales that wind up rather unexpectedly. The results are hilarious and the audience literally rolls on the floor as Rapunzel's long golden locks come off in her savior's hands and the Big Bad Wolf begs Little Red Riding Hood for mercy.

Kids of all ages are invited to join the fun at the Knox Presbyterian Church Hall (the Library isn't big enough for this crowd!)

Works on the road

The works committee will take its annual spring tour of inspection of the roads in Halton Hills on Thursday, April 8, they decided at Monday evening's meeting. The committee will leave the municipal offices at 1 p.m.

Limehouse Cubs tour Toronto International Airport

Mr. and Mrs. George Herrington have returned from a holiday in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Quinton of Meaford spent a few days with the Bentons.

The George Morrisons have returned from Quebec province where they attended the funeral of his mother.

Rev. W.A. Douglas of Mendowville baptized Gavin, an infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Morris on Sunday and conducted the church service.

Rev. Peter Barrow is in England where his father is gravely ill. Our thoughts are with him.

by Mrs. Hannah
Limehouse Cubs spent part of their winter break at Toronto International Airport. Fourteen boys accompanied by their two leaders, Mr. and Mrs. Walton, Mr. Huggie and Mr. Hannah, went on this tour.

Esquing Women's Institute meets

The regular March meeting of the Esquing Women's Institute was held Thursday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. Godden, with the president, Mrs. J. Staddon, presiding.

The rollcall "One way in which progress is changing our lives" was answered by 11 members.

Mrs. Staddon gave the motto "Give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you."

Mrs. Bruce Beckett, Mrs. Harvey Clare and Mrs. E. Humphreys were elected as a nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers to be presented at the April annual meeting.

An invitation was received to attend the 25th anniversary of Silverwood Institute to be held in Esquing Community Hall. An auction sale of articles donated by the members was capably handled by Mrs. A. Jolie and aided considerably by the financial situation.

Mrs. J. Dawson assisted the hostess who served a delicious lunch.

Give to the RED CROSS

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