

New Auto Sales Firm Opens Here

The Hudson Sales Service, a new automobile firm, has opened for business in Birmingham, locating at 829 South Woodward avenue.

The new concern was formed by Robert B. McCutcheon, of Detroit, and Clarence J. Clohset, until recently of Birmingham. Both are former Hudson men.

The firm has purchased the building it now occupies. For some time the place was the home of the Standard Engineering company and Standard Designers, which have moved since the close of the war.

The display rooms occupy the front of the building, then come the offices, with the service department occupying the rear of the place.

Assuming that there are two sides to everything—even to the Michigan automobile strike—the Michigan Mirror this week undertakes the difficult task of appraising the wage controversy between Michigan automobile companies and the U.A.W.-C.I.O. union.

First, we assume also that it is a proper and fundamental duty of the press to report facts objectively. This in itself, is not easy to do. Eye-witnesses to an accident often tell different stories. A jury consists of 12 individuals, not just one, as a safeguard against miscarriage of justice.

Second, we assume that an enlightened public opinion—created by both emotional declarations of the two parties and by the facts as others see them—will be the major and final factor determining outcome of the Michigan strike.

That's where YOU come into the picture. And that's where YOUR government, prodded by YOUR opinion, may intervene.



The Michigan automobile business dates back to 1899 when the Olds Vehicle company, which had moved from Lansing to Detroit, began regular production of automobiles. In 1910 the newly-formed General Motors Corporation took over the Olds work. In 1901 Henry Ford produced his first car; the company, a family-held corporation, was chartered in 1919.

As a historian would see it, this is rapid transformation. Here is a comparatively NEW industry.

It resulted in a boom for Detroit from 1925 to 1930, when the population jumped from 285,704 in 1900 to 1,668,662 in 1930—the span of a single generation! Other cities—Flint, Saginaw, Pontiac, Lansing, Grand Rapids—experienced a similar growth.

Because the automobile industry employs mass production methods, its labor demand has been largely for UNSKILLED workmen. Highly skilled mechanical jobs are relatively few. We recall

one Lansing automobile industrialist saying that an average firm could learn to be a good worker in 30 days, but that if he were a GOOD farm boy, he could do it in three days!

Because no great skill was required, the auto industry sought to supply its labor needs in midwestern and southern states—Michigan, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Tennessee and the "Deep South." This migration to Michigan unfortunately did not stimulate deep roots here; much of the labor has been transient and marginal.

Another characteristic of the industry has been its periodic fluctuations of employment. New models. A change may lay off thousands. When Ford changed from the famous Model T, some 60,000 workers were idle for months.

The unskilled nature of the work, plus periodic unemployment, did not make for steady income. The N.R.A. study of wages in the auto industry shows that 45 per cent of the workers received an annual income of less than \$1,000.

Here you have a new industry, employing unskilled workers and subjecting them to periodical loss of income.

It seems inevitable that labor unrest would breed in such fertile soil. Remember 1937 and the sit-down strikes in Michigan? Here was evidence that the pendulum had swung far to the left. The United States supreme court declared the action to be illegal.

But it is significant to note that the C.I.O. labor movement in Michigan is less than a decade old in experience. Here also is a NEW development.

IT'S HERE

BIRMINGHAM'S NEW

JANE PARKER BAKERY DEPARTMENT

"A Store Within a Store"

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Our Wish for You

EVERYONE is included in our wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year—wishes which are drawn from the deep, pure wells of hope.

You have helped make the past year a most pleasant one for us. Mindful of this, we have but one thought as we enter 1946... to be fully worthy of the confidence you have reposed in us.

OLSEN'S MARKET

120 So. Woodward Phone 648

The newness of the U.A.W.-C.I.O. in fact, is perhaps its greatest strength and also its greatest weakness.

Led by the Reuther brothers, the union has boldly demanded a straight 30 per cent increase in the worker's hour rate—or 48 hours pay for 40 hours work. Further than that, the union insists that the corporation's profits are a matter of proprietary interest of the workers—certainly a socialistic idea and one that fits well into the thinking of the Reuther brothers.

General Motors countered with an offer to increase the hour rate 10 per cent and to assure a 45-hour work week. Whereas the hour rate has been \$1.12 to \$1.15 (according to the union) or \$1.18 (according to GM), the new hour rate would be \$1.26. The take-home pay would be \$57.50 (allowing for the same absenteeism at 45 hours as existed at 48 hours) compared with the union's demand for \$59.80 for 40 hours' work. Allowing for absenteeism, the workers' take-home pay last June (1945) was \$55.64. Thus, the GM offer would result in MORE take-home pay than the worker received during wartime.

The struggle is akin to David's combat with Goliath in that General Motors' financial position is reported by the New York Times as being at 2.2 billion dollars in total assets and 1.1 billion dollars in liquid assets, while the union's total resources if distributed to all union members would be only around \$50 each.

And now for the writer's own personal interpretations.

If the union is successful in getting anything like a 30 per cent boost in wage rates, the effect will be widespread upon our national economy. Prices inevitably must be adjusted upward. Result will be inflationary.

If wages are linked to profits, then the worker must be willing to expect the formula to work both ways. When profits go down, the worker's wages must go down.

The union's weakness, as we see it, lies in its radical and irresponsible leadership. Back of the Reuther boys' thinking in the U.A.W.-C.I.O. is a desire to nationalize the automobile industry. This is state socialism which opens the door to totalitarian government and death of the free enterprise system.

The public has much at stake in the outcome of the Michigan automobile strike.

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All along the spacious aisle you'll see gleaming counters and showcases amply stocked with tempting delicious Bakery Delights. From Jelly-filled Donuts, Danish Pastries and Individual Coffee Buns, to luscious Almond or Pecan-Cream Pastries, Grand, fresh Fruit Pies and lavish two-deck Layer Cakes.

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Cold Preparations

Best Wishes for the NEW YEAR

A good beginning for the New Year, we believe, is a good wish—and a good resolution.

Our good wish is for you—more health, more happiness and prosperity!

And our resolution—resolved to give you still better service in

1946

Williams Boot Shop

115 West Maple

BEST WISHES for the COMING YEAR

* Step aside, 1946, and let's peer into the future for a moment. We see, for certain, a much more hopeful year than was 1945—a year of promise and of destiny. We believe you see this too.

It is our hope that the New Year will open for you a pathway to your most-cherished desires.

Birmingham DRUG STORE

1220 S. Woodward

Be Sure To See The 1946 Hudson

HUDSON SALES AND SERVICE

Now Under Management of

Clohset & McCutcheon

820 S. WOODWARD — BIRMINGHAM

Phone Birmingham 4400

Bestirs Senate

Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.) created a furor in the Senate by calling for an occasionally strong Germany as a bulwark against Russia. Occupation authorities are currently stripping Germany of war potential, which includes heavy industry, considered necessary, if the beaten nation is to be economically strong.

ANGEL FOOD CAKES Each **45c**
Choice of Chocolate, Orange or Boiled Icing.

DANISH PASTRY COFFEE RING Each **33c**
Deliciously Filled With Fruits and Nuts.

ASSORTED COOKIES Doz **25c**
Choice of Raisin, Chocolate Chip, Peanut Butter or Sugar Cookies.

INDIVIDUAL DANISH PASTRY 6 For **29c**
Tender, Flaky, Filled Whirls.

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Coconut Icing.

DELICIOUS PUMPKIN PIE Each **45c**
Tender, Flaky Crust.

YEAST RAISED, TENDER DONUTS 3 for **10c**
Sugared or Glazed.

THE NEW A&P BAKERY DEPARTMENT HAS THE GREATEST VARIETY OF BAKED GOODS IN TOWN!

JANE PARKER Potato Chips Pk. 29c	FRESH BUTTER PECAN Bar Cake Each 49c	ORANGE RAISIN Coffee Cake Each 29c	HOME-STYLE Donuts Doz 37c
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UNICED LARGE ANGEL FOOD Ring Each 55c	DELICIOUS ENGLISH Muffins 6 for 15c	DELICIOUSLY FRESH CHERRY Layer Cake Each 59c	APPLE FILLED Coffee Cake Each 29c
Jelly Donuts 6 for 10c	Fruit Cake 3 for 1.65	FRESH COCAINUT Cup Cakes Each 5c	CHOCOLATE Fudge Cake Each 49c
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Walnut Cake Each 85c	FRESH Cinnamon Buns Doz 27c	FRESH WHITE PIE Each 57c	FRESH OATMEAL Cookies Doz 19c
CHOCOLATE OR ORANGE ICED Donuts Doz 35c	Raisin Bread 3 Loaves 32c	ORANGE BIPPED Cup Cakes Each 5c	