

What's What With Jewish Education In Pittsburgh?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the last of seven articles detailing the preliminary reports of the Self Study on Jewish Education which was carried out during the past Spring.)

By WILLIAM MAZEFSKY

"Who is responsible for what kind of Jewish Education in Pittsburgh?"

That was the question framed in the lead sentence of the initial article of this series on the findings of the community-wide Self

Study Committee on Jewish Education. . . .

And, according to the Committee on Community Responsibility and Relationships, the total Jewish community is responsible for Jewish Education both by tradi-

tion and by examination of the facts.

The facts revealed by the preliminary reports by the sub-committees dealing with School Facilities, Teachers' Training, Curricula and Standards, School Facts, Parents' Attitudes uncovered tremendous gaps and weakness in the existing school system that weigh the odds heavily against the students, the teachers and the school.

At the present time, responsibility for Jewish Education is divided into as many pieces as there are schools in this city. In short, everyone is responsible — and there is an old adage that rea-

sons "When everyone is responsible, no one is responsible."

Each of the sub-committees of the Self Study group submitted that before problems and dangerous weakness that now exist can be overcome in detail, the entire fabric had to be strengthened by a central agency for Jewish Education, which would be supported by the community.

The key recommendations, pivot of the entire Self Study report, was made by the Committee on Community Responsibility and Relationships. Headed by Abraham Pervin, the Community Responsibility group reviewed and examined thoroughly the reports of all other committees before reaching its conclusions.

This series of articles closes with the complete text of these recommendations made by the Committee on Community Responsibility and Relationships — recommendations that go to the root of the problems: (And which were accepted unanimously by the full Self Study Committee.)

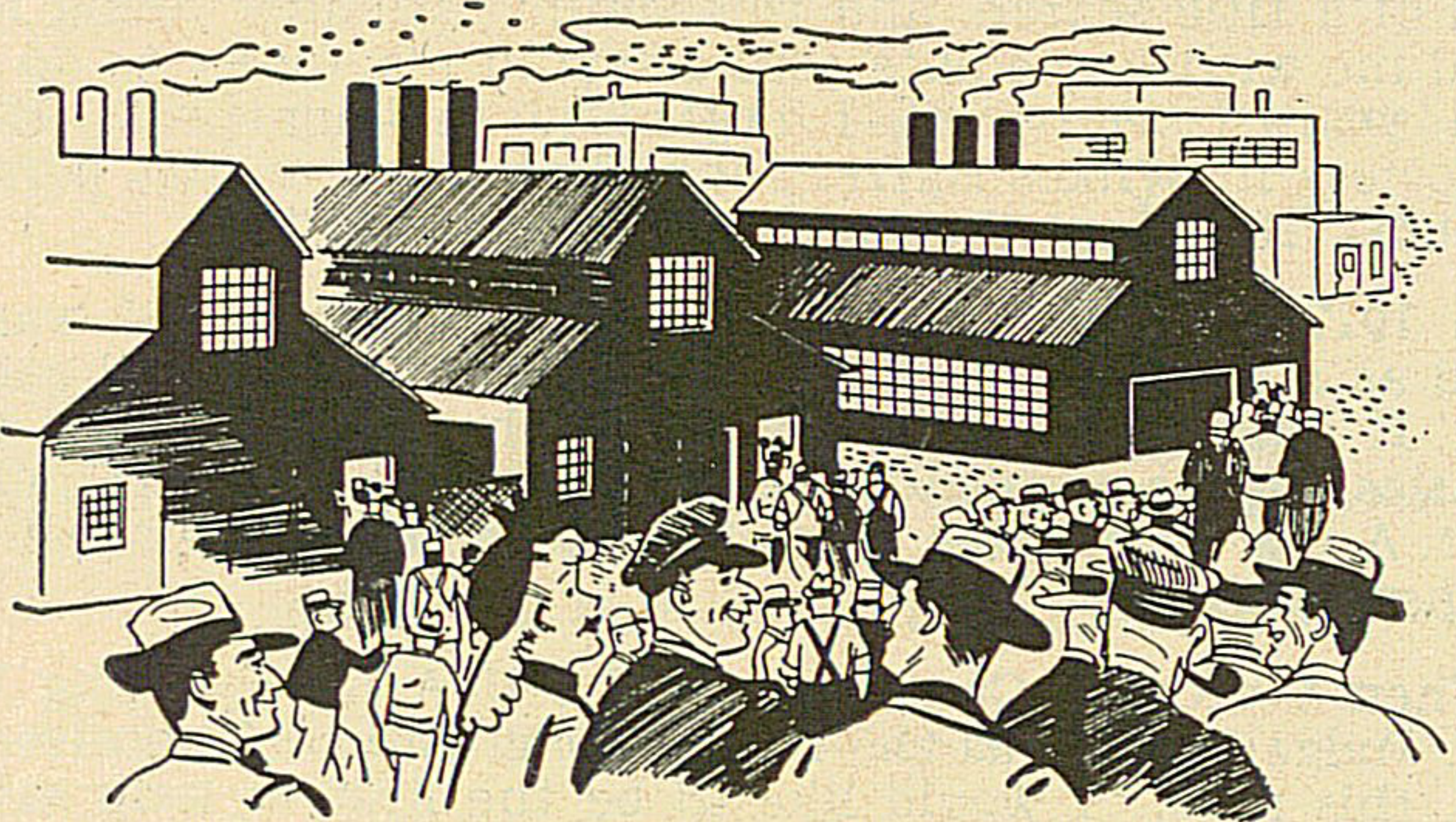
"It is the consensus of all the sub-committees, including the committee on Community Responsibility and Relationships, that the first step toward carrying into effect the various recommendations requires the formation of a central community agency for Jewish education, which should be an affiliate of the United Jewish Fund. Such an agency should have on its Board representatives of all the educational interests in the community, as well as representatives of the community at large. The proposed agency should recognize the right of the several groups within the community to their respective ideological differences and should not impose any one dominant curriculum on the various schools. The central agency should endeavor to establish such an educational framework within which all elements working in the field of Jewish education could function effectively.

"The central agency would act as a service agency, both administrative and educational, for all the schools, helping to promote registration; to introduce uniform records of attendance, achievements, promotion and graduation; to achieve and maintain high standards of teaching, facilities and equipment; and to provide expert supervision of the work. It would also act as a service agency for the entire community, in developing programs of Jewish Education for young men and women, as well as programs for parent education. The agency would also serve in a public relations capacity, interpreting the value of Jewish education to the community. To the end that these aspirations may be accomplished, the committee on Community Responsibility and Relationships respectfully recommends to, and moves the adoption by, the Community Self Study Committee on Jewish education the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, Jewish Education is a vital concern and responsibility of the Jewish community of Pittsburgh; and

"WHEREAS, there is an urgent

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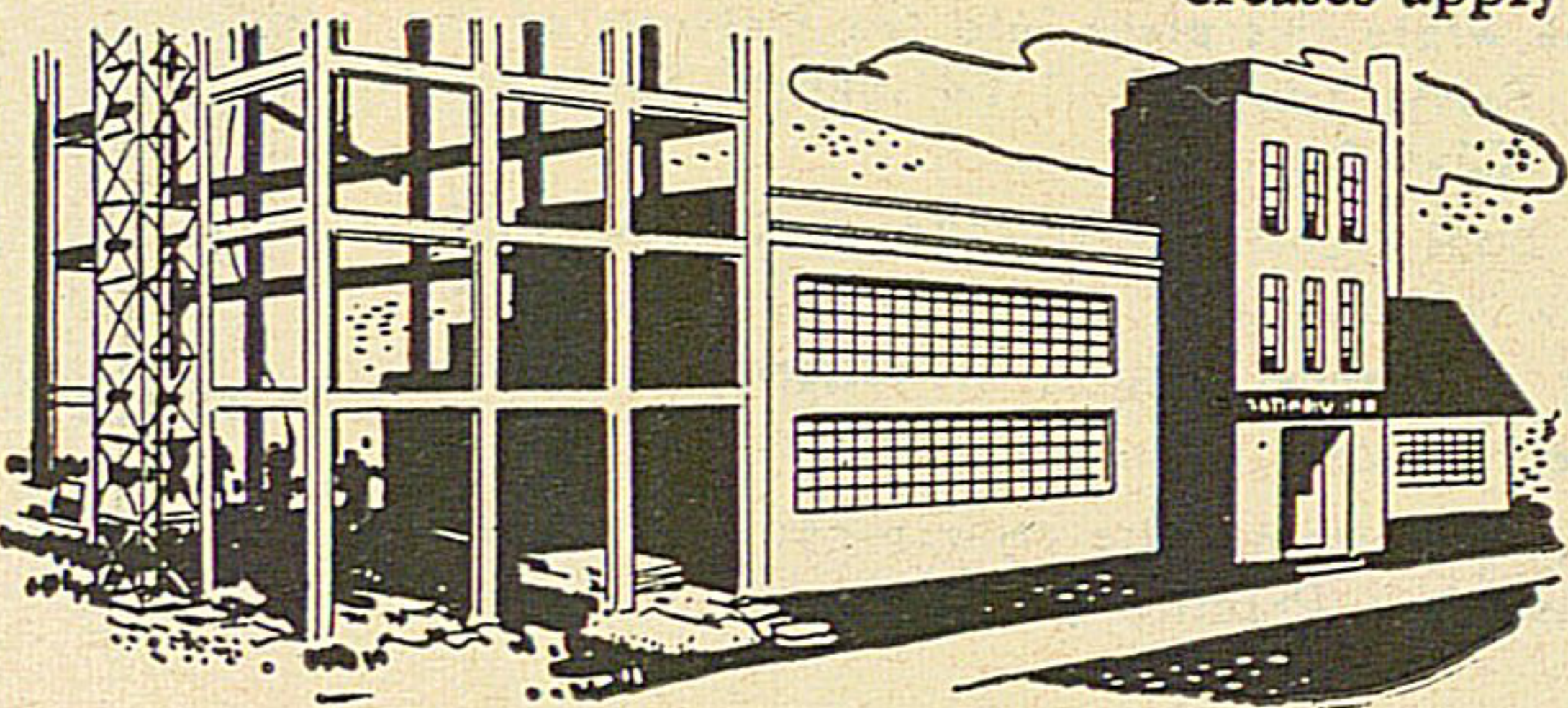


New Jobs

Industrial employment and production has never been as high as under the administration of Governor Duff. More than 60,000 jobs were added in industry, with payrolls fattened by \$1¼ billion in the first two years of the present administration. This means extra business for all.

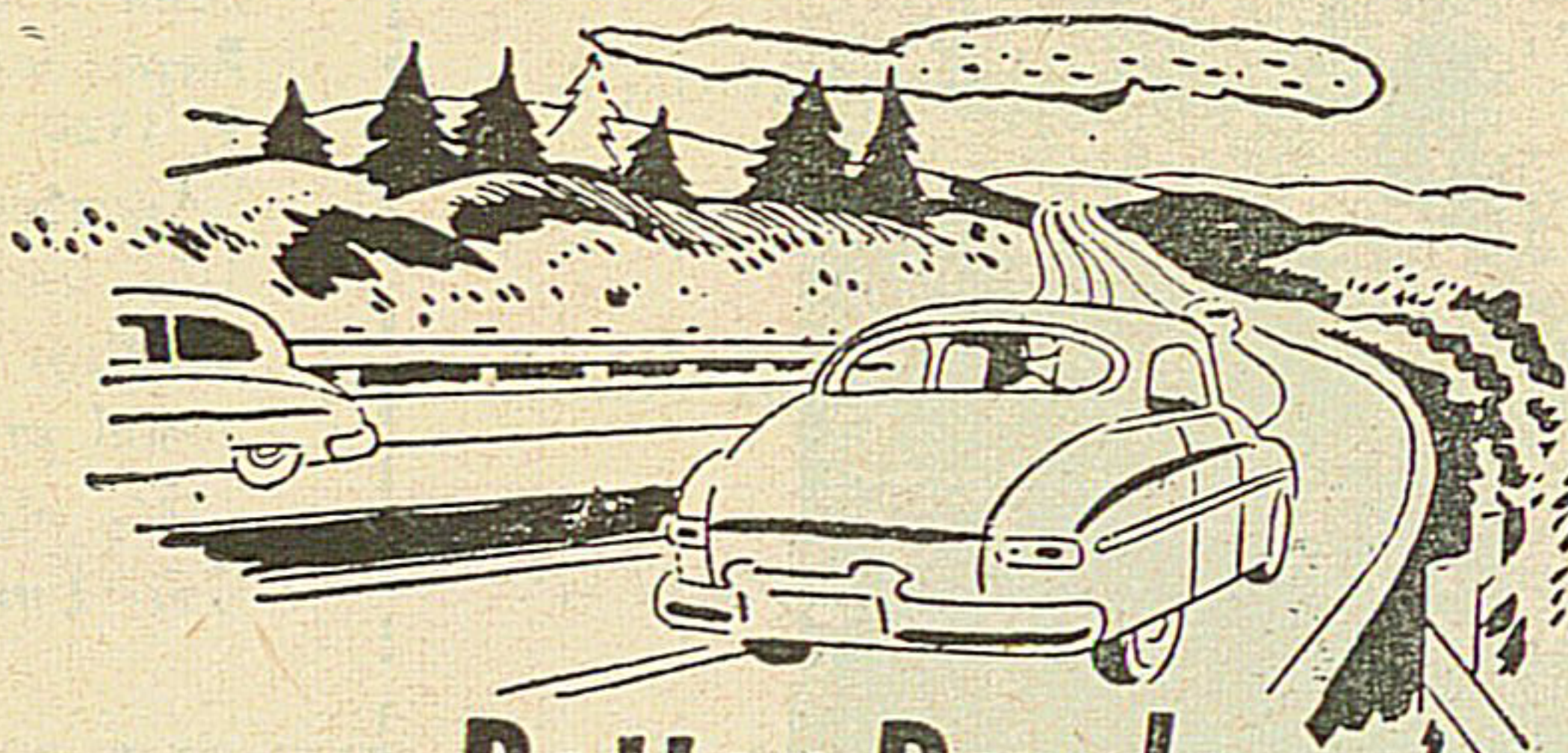
Benefits to Labor

Labor has benefited under the program sponsored by Governor James H. Duff and enacted by Republican legislatures in several ways. State Compensation laws have been revised to help the unemployed, the injured, the sick and the physically handicapped. Unemployment Compensation has been upped from \$20.00 to \$25.00 a week—payments are made for 24 weeks instead of 20 as before. The same increases apply to those injured.



More Business

In less than four years of the Duff Administration 29,022 new firms of all kinds have been established in the State. This required the investment of \$2½ Billion in plants and equipment. Truly a good sign that industrialists consider the Republican policies sound and helpful. John S. Fine has promised to continue these policies.



Better Roads

Pennsylvania's highway program leads the 48 states; more money spent on farm-to-market roads and main highway systems than any other administration. Turnpike extension of 167 miles under construction. Penn-Lincoln Parkway, Point Park, West-End By-Pass and other improvements are under way.

No matter how you are registered you can keep on winning Better Living with

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November 7th

Allegheny County Republican Executive Committee
L. Pat McGrath, Chairman
Mrs. Nellie G. Dressler, Vice Chairman

need for: (a) The increase and improvement of existing Sunday School and weekday school facilities; (b) the progressive development of curricula, methods and standards of teaching; (c) the enhancement of the security, status, quality and training of teachers; (d) the improvement of school administration, the regularity and punctuality of class attendance and effective discipline in the classes; (e) the increase of the number of pupils, both boys and girls, in all schools, as well as increase their interest in Jewish studies; (f) the expansion of the number of years of school attendance with continuation of study from pre-elementary through high school age; (g) the promotion of an intelligent, active interest and understanding among all ages and elements of the community of the meaning and importance of Jewish Education; and (h) the creation and fostering of conditions in the homes and public institutions conducive to the promotion of Jewish education; and

“WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the community to promote these aims and aid in the securing of the means toward their attainment,

“THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the responsible Jewish organizations of the City of Pittsburgh, with the active participation of professional and lay-leaders at large, and the financial assistance of the United Jewish Fund, create forthwith, and maintain effectively, by democratic means, a Pittsburgh Board of Jewish Education, under a qualified professional director, with due regard at all times to reasonable differences of opinion as to the ends of Jewish Education and the means of their attainment, and with full respect for the autonomy of all institutions dedicated thereto, but with

the aim of their constant and increasing self-improvement for the common welfare of the entire Jewish community.”

Dr. A. L. Sachar to Tell Dramatic Story About Brandeis

A long cherished dream of the Jewish people was transformed into a reality on October 7, 1948, in the formal founding of Brandeis University at Waltham, Massachusetts, the first Jewish sponsored non-sectarian university in the Western Hemisphere. Brandeis represents the fulfillment of an obligation deeply felt by the Jewish community to contribute to the educational scene of the country. The dramatic story of the university's birth and development will be told by Dr. A. L. Sachar, Brandeis' first president, at a meeting of the Pittsburgh Friends of Brandeis University in the Georgian Room of Hotel Webster Hall on Sunday evening, November 12, at 8:30.

Pittsburgh interest in Brandeis has been growing rapidly and the Jewish community here is joining other major communities of the country in an effort to gain financial supports for the school. Leonard H. Krieger has undertaken the leadership of the local effort, assisted by a large sponsoring committee. Mr. Krieger, president of the Southwest Steel Company, is a graduate of the college and law school of the University of Pittsburgh. A member of Rodef Shalom Temple, he has for some time been active in Pittsburgh United Jewish Fund activities.

Brandeis University, now consists of six remodeled or newly constructed buildings connected by sweeping walks, luxurious foliage and open fields. Free of any discrimination as to race, color, or creed, Brandeis selects both students and faculty on the