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Crawford Workers Group Now Seeks CIO Affiliation

Renewed efforts to affiliate with the CIO are being made by a group of employes at Crawford Furniture Manufacturing Corporation, according to Sandy Searantino, president of Crawford Furniture Workers Union (Ind.).

He said the announcement was made with full approval of the independent union's executive committee. However, the committee has not yet taken a definite stand on the matter. It will probably decide April 10 on whether or not to support the efforts.

Last year, the independent union voted to affiliate with the United Furniture Workers of America (CIO), but the Crawford employes rejected the CIO as their bargaining agent, 88-55, on March 14, 1952.

A second election was held July 16 after the National Labor Relations Board upheld a CIO protest that Crawford company officials had participated in anti-union activities prior to the election. In the second election, the CIO was defeated 71-63.

Local 45, UFWA-CIO, which had been chartered after the leaders of the independent union voted to affiliate with the CIO, was dissolved after the elections.