In early 1978, Neil Leighton, a political science professor at the University of Michigan-Flint, went to an academic conference at Duke University. While there, he ran into Professor Laurence Goodwyn...

Working on the line at General Motors in Flint was a job many men needed desperately in the 1930's, but it was also tremendously difficult. Terrible working conditions, combined with unfair and devious payroll practices, made the auto plants of Depression-era Flint into ripe locations for union organization...

On the night of December 30, the majority of employees who had been working their shift at Fisher 1 and Fisher 2 left the plants. Some left only to celebrate the New Year and returned later. Others took up picket and food-gathering activities on the outside...

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