

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301 - - - U. E. R. & M. W. A.

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December 16, 1949

Kelly and Jandreau Elected by Local 301

UE Negotiators Take Up Way GE Assists Carey

Meetings between the UE negotiating committee and GE were resumed Wednesday. The union spokesmen again went into the actions which GE has engaged in under cover of legal technicalities, built on the "Imitation UE" drive. Taking full advantage of the Carey disruption, GE has stalled the negotiations. It also has withheld the check-off money, thereby interfering seriously with operation of the local. It has obstructed the grievance procedure in a number of plants. In some plants it is recognizing no one, so that the grievance procedure has been stopped.

UE Still Recognized

At the meeting last week, George H. Pfeif of top GE management said the company recognized UE as the representative of the workers under the contract. But it was brought out in the discussion that GE's actions were interfering with this representation.

Despite the company's position that it was withdrawing its so-called pension and insurance offer (worth 2.1 cents an hour) because of the Carey claims, the UE committee insisted on discussing pensions and pointed out the defects of the company's offer. Pfeif con-

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Figure This Out!

Before the 1,000 workers at the Allegheny Ludlum Steel plant at Watervliet were called out on strike by Philip Murray Nov. 1 the company paid four cents an hour toward health insurance and the workers paid nothing. Under the United Steelworkers' settlement of the two-week strike, the company won't pay an extra penny on insurance, but the workers will pay two and a half cents an hour starting Jan. 1.

As in the other steel settlements, the workers get no pay increase and their union officials have signed away their rights to seek any wage increase during 1950. They can't try to change other working conditions until 1952. The pension plan, scheduled to go into effect Jan. 1 for five years, still has to be okayed by a stockholders' meeting next spring.

Blessings and Buses For Carey from Philco

Here's another proof of the company union character of the "Imitation UE."

In Sandusky, the Philco management excused all workers at 11 a.m. to attend meetings called by the Carey boys. Not only that, but the company provided buses to take the workers to the meetings!



William Kelly



Leo Jandreau



Joseph Mangino



James Cagnetta

Statement on Election By Commissioner Eckel

The following statement was issued by Charles W. Eckel, Schenectady County election commissioner, after the votes were tabulated Wednesday in the 301 election.

"At the request of the Local 301 Election Committee, I personally supervised the conduct of the election, opening and closing the polls and having a representative present at all times while the polls were open. I attest to the fact that the election was orderly, fair and impartial.

"As an experienced officer, I want to add the comment that the turnout of voters was surprisingly high, in view of the fact that there was no contest for several major offices, and that all the candidates were supporters of the same viewpoint in the plant, namely the viewpoint of UE Local 301.

"Signed: CHARLES W. ECKEL,
Election Comm."

Big Turnout Of Members For Balloting

A total of 4,194 members of Local 301 voted this week in the union's annual election of officers conducted in 49 hours of voting at the union hall from Monday noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, on election machines.

William J. Kelly, former vice-president and former assistant to the business agent, was elected president and Business Agent Leo Jandreau was reelected to serve his fourteenth term.

Elected to Office

Other officers chosen were: vice-president, Joseph A. Mangino; now a Board member; recording secretary, John P. Green, now acting recording secretary; assistant recording secretary, Shop Steward Virginia C. Murphy; treasurer, Henry Kaminski, now a Board member; chief shop steward, James J. Cagnetta, now a Board member; trustees, Shop Stewards Frank J. D'Amico, Floyd Thomas and Joseph G. Whitbeck; sergeant-at-arms, Shop Steward James Muir; and guide, Shop Steward Floyd E. Warner.

Eckel Supervises

County Election Commissioner Charles Eckel again supervised the election and the tabulation, on invitation of the Election Committee. (See statement by Eckel).

On behalf of the Election Committee, Chairman George DeCresce and Secretary Paul Hacko issued a statement thanking all candidates.

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NOTICE— Election of Shop Stewards

Local 301, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America

In accordance with the Constitution, Art. XVI, Section B, elections of shop stewards will be conducted in all groups

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1949

The elections will be conducted during the lunch hour on all three shifts, beginning Thursday morning, December 22, and concluding 7 o'clock Friday morning, December 23. (except where a group may be notified of special arrangements).

Only members in good standing of UE Local 301 may be nominated and may vote in these elections.

The above is notice to all members to be ready for the election during their lunch hour on December 22.

ELECTION COMMITTEE,
GEORGE DECRESCCE, chairman
PAUL HACKO, secretary

Membership Meeting

There will a Local 301 membership meeting at the union hall at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, for first and third shift members, and later that night at 12:45 p.m. for second shift members, after the close of the second shift.

Court Upholds FE-UE Merger

Merger of the 50,000 members of the Farm Equipment Union with UE has been upheld by a decision of New York State Supreme Court Justice Morris Eder. He ruled that the referendum by which FE members voted overwhelmingly to join UE was legal under the FE constitution.

The judge dismissed a plea by a former FE officer and the national CIO for an injunction against the merger.

Employees of the International Harvester Company at Auburn recently voted to become part of the Farm Equipment Council of UE. This action of FE Local 180, which represents 1,400 production and maintenance workers, reverses an earlier vote to join UAW-CIO.

Technical employees at the plant, members of FE Local 256, have also voted to affiliate with UE.

The Auburn workers chose UE to protect the gains won under their union contract with Harvester. They didn't want to have to take the UAW contract instead, which has poorer seniority, piece work and holiday clauses.

UE Negotiators Take Up Way GE Assists Carey

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tinued to rely heavily on the Steel and Auto settlements in defending GE's position. The Steel and Auto pension deals do not take effect until various times in 1950.

In a letter to Joseph Dermody, UE representative, last week, Pfeif repeated his defense of the company's position based on legal technicalities, and repeated GE's claim to neutrality. Dermody pointed out that the company's claim to "neutrality" took a form helpful to the Carey stooges.

One issue being discussed is the question of making accumulated pension money available to laid-off workers without breaching their service. Certain proposals are being considered. In order to avoid confusion, this will be reported here only when and if the matter has been decided.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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SCHENECTADY LOCAL 301

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Pigeon Was A Favorite At 301 Party



Children at the 301 Christmas party at Mont Pleasant High School try to make Harold Vine, magician, show them where the pigeon came from. Left to right, Billy Kilmer, Marie Colandro, John D. Gallo and Diane Colandro.

301 Election

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dates for their cooperation in conducting a fair and impartial election.

The statement said that the number of union members turning out to vote was remarkable "in the light of the fact that there were contests for only three major offices, with no contest for president, recording secretary, treasurer and business agent, and that in the contests all candidates were all-out supporters of UE."

Jandreau polled the highest vote, 3,834.

The complete voting record was: President, William Kelly, 3,805. (1 write-in vote for Joseph Kelly) Vice-President, Mangino, 3,395; Jack Andrews, 663. Recording Secretary, Green, 3,766. (1 write-up vote for Marion Tibbitts). Assistant Recording Secretary, Murphy, 3,607, and Frank Cornicelli, 356.

Treasurer, Kaminski, 3,880. Chief Shop Steward, Cognetta, 3,337; Rudy Rissland, 405; Alfred Peirah, 104; Walter Kniffen, 54; and James De Masseo, 74. (1 write-in vote for Elizabeth Daley).

Business Agent, Jandreau, 3,834. Trustees (three elected), D'Amico, 3,370; Thomas, 3,453; Whitbeck, 3,449; Salvatore De Pietro, 984; Henry Busse, 372; Reynold Baker, 375; Edward Lubarda, 98; George Parr, 103; Frederick Shufelt, 83, and Raymond Forslund, 55.

Sergeant-at-arms, Muir, 3,377; George Grandall, 497. Guide, Warner, 3,333; George Walker, 504, Al Claypool, 76.

ATTEND THE UNION MEETINGS

Carey Speaker Smears 301 Steward System

One of the most vicious falsehoods of the many peddled by the Carey stooges is the one put on the radio last week by one John Marshall regarding the UE shop steward system. He claimed that A. C. Stevens, assistant to the works manager, had told him that Leo Jandreau "replaces" shop stewards whom the company dislikes.

The falsehood was deliberate, because Frank Kriss, who conducted the radio program, knows from his own experience that shop stewards have been changed only by secret ballot recall election on petition from members, or by the Executive Board on specific charges.

When Jandreau told Stevens how he was quoted on the radio, Stevens declared he had made no such statement, but refused to issue a public statement denying it.

The Carey stooges are obviously much upset over the victory of the membership in forcing the company to recognize changes in shop stewards as in the past. Made had at first insisted he would continue to recognize stewards who were removed by the Executive Board because of open activity on behalf of the Carey outfit. Membership protests forced the company to live up to the contract. The Carey people hoped that the company would make it possible for their handful of shop stewards to use the union's name and money to tear down the union.

Only a handful of stewards turned against the UE and were suspended and replaced. Under the constitution, the Executive Board can make temporary appointments, good for fifteen days, pending an election.

10 Cent Raise

UE Local 1139 at Minneapolis has won a straight 10 cents an hour wage increase at Minnesota Steel Supply Company.

Carey Agents Trying This Trick on Workers

The current trick of the Carey stooges in their desperate efforts to sign up workers is the story that signing an application card is just to get a Labor Board election, and does not pledge a vote for the "Imitation UE".

In his broadcast last week, Frank Kriss went to great lengths to assure GE workers that if they sign a stooge union card and withdraw from the checkoff, they don't lose their contract security, they don't lose their membership in UE, and so on.

This is a fine lot of typical Carey-Kriss-Fiorillo hogwash, dished out in the hope of fooling some people into signing cards.

Maybe a Kriss doesn't understand it, but any good union man's common sense will tell him that he can hardly expect to get effective union representation by refusing to pay dues, riding on the backs of his fellow-workers, and tearing down the union which won the contract and enforces it.

But anything goes for the Carey boys.

These new stewards, taking the oath of office, are left to right: Julius Rispoli, Building 73A; Joseph Macherone, Bldg. 69 and Helen M. Scott, Bldg. 69.



CONGRESSMAN DRIPP BY YOMEN



"Don't worry, honey. Just because they sent Congressman Thomas to jail doesn't mean you aren't going to get any more expense money for smearing unions."

Charges Are Filed For Anti-UE Acts

Charges were mailed Wednesday by Acting Recording Secretary John Green to members accused of raiding and secession activities. They are charged with advising workers to leave UE and with passing out application cards for "a rival, rump organization."

In accordance with a vote by the shop stewards' meeting last week, the Executive Board called a special meeting of the 301 membership for last night to elect a trial committee of nine members under the constitutional provisions.

The accused members were notified by Secretary Green that the Executive Board had recommended that the trial committee hold hearings Monday, Dec. 19, at 1 p.m. for second shift workers against whom charges were made and at 7:30 p.m. for first and third shift workers.

Under the constitution the trial committee is required to report its recommendations to the next 301 membership meeting.

Tune in on the Arthur Gaeth broadcast at 10 p.m. every Monday on WXXW.

Law Suits Now In State Court

Federal Judge James T. Foley has returned to the New York State Supreme Court the court action which Frank Kriss, Frank Fiorillo and Ralph Miranda brought against Local 301. There will be a hearing Tuesday before Judge John Alexander in Schenectady on the question of continuing the injunction which he issued restricting the right of the 301 membership to use the union's funds.

The union's action against Kriss, Fiorillo and Miranda, to restrain them from interfering with Local 301, will also come before Judge Alexander then.

Turbine Inspectors

Inspectors in the Turbine Division will meet next week at the union hall to discuss shop problems and grievances raised by a number of them. Inspectors working on the first and third shifts will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday and second shift inspectors will meet at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Is Your Shop 100% UE?

Broadcast by Kriss Full of Falsehoods

As the GE workers show their overwhelming rejection of the "Imitation UE", the Carey stooges are increasing their resort to wholesale falsehoods in their attempt to confuse people.

Typical was the radio broadcast last week by Frank Kriss. Here are two examples.

Kriss said that General President Albert J. Fitzgerald now is a member of Local 301. He is not, and never was. He remains a member of Lynn Local 201.

Kriss again said that if the workers changed over from UE to the stooge union, the contract would remain in force. The truth is that the new outfit would have no contract. That is the law. It is also the bitter experience of the workers in the 38 or 40 UE plants successfully raided by other CIO unions in the past two years.

There were many more such untruths. A separate story appears in this issue regarding the most serious and brazen falsehood, regarding the designation of shop stewards. There is also a separate piece on the seniority issue in which the broadcast stood the facts on their head.

Gaeth Broadcasts Answer to Murray

Arthur Gaeth, radio commentator, in his broadcast Dec. 5 replied to an attack made on him by CIO President Philip Murray at the "Imitation UE" convention.

"Two decades ago an Austrian paper hanger developed the thesis that if you told big whoppers people would more easily believe them," Gaeth said. "I resent having the whopper treatment applied to me."

In reply to Murray's untrue statement that UE paid Gaeth \$380,000 last year, Gaeth said that his contract was with the network, not the union; that the union has no control over his scripts, and that he asked "less for my services than the \$25,000 a year Mr. Murray is drawing."

"I believe what first got Mr. Murray on his ear," Gaeth commented, "was my reporting of the brutal assault by CIO Industrial Workers, once a puppet of the Steel Workers, on Maurice Travis, secretary-treasurer of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, down in Alabama last April. It was a raiding operation."

In accordance with a vote by the 301 shop stewards last week, the union office has sent every steward three copies of the Gaeth broadcast, "An Answer to Philip Murray," to show to their groups.

Take Your Choice

Speaking on a Carey broadcast here last week, one John Marshall complained that the holiday provision of the GE contract with UE is not perfect.

What would he prefer? Philip Murray's Steelworkers' contract with the main steel companies, which has no paid holidays at all?

Or perhaps the Steelworkers' contract with American Locomotive here, where holiday pay is \$8 flat instead of one day's pay?

\$64 Question In Bldg. 69

The \$64 question in Building 69 is: How much can you get away with if you're campaigning for the "Imitation UE"?

Local 301 has warned the company repeatedly that Stanley Bishop, removed as an Executive Board member and shop steward, was spending considerable time on the various floors of the building campaigning for the Carey outfit, while he is supposed to be operating a milling machine on the ground floor.

Nevertheless, Bishop continues to be seen daily spending hours on the second floor in conversation with other former shop stewards.

Another question is, who pays a while he is away from his machine?

The company's answer to the union regarding Bishop's activities during working hours was that supervision would tell him to stay on the first floor, and that there was no more that could be done.

Carey Meeting Flops At Peterboro GE

In spite of big advance publicity by Carey agents at the GE plant at Peterboro, Ontario, Canada, the meeting which they staged there recently with James B. Carey as speaker turned out to be a flop.

Nevertheless Carey has applied to the Ontario Labour Relations Board for certification of the "Imitation UE" as bargaining agent and the company has turned over the check-off money to a trust fund, pending a court order about the disposition of the funds. GE is giving every possible aid to the Carey group.

Christmas Seals

Endorsement of the annual Christmas seal campaign of the Schenectady County Tuberculosis and Health Association was voted last week by the 301 Executive Board.