

UNION SCHOLARSHIP FUND GROWING

Local 301's Scholarship Fund has reached \$526, according to Frank Masterson, chairman of the money raising committee.

Masterson said reports from Board members indicate complete cooperation from the membership but there are still many who have not yet turned in figures.

The Scholarship will be in memory of young men, sons of union members, who have died untimely in the last few years.

The fund will be administered by the city school administration and will be awarded to the youngster with the highest scholastic standing and in real need of financial aid.

Masterson this week urged members of Local 301 to contact their Board members if they wish to contribute to the fund. Shop stewards also will accept contributions.

ROTTERDAM BOARD OKS MINIMUM WAGE HIKE

The Rotterdam town board followed the pattern set by the Board of supervisors when the town's Board members went on record of favoring an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

The action was urged Wednesday night by Local 301's Assistant Business agent Allen Townsend. The Board's action was the second rebuttal of the Schenectady Chamber of Commerce which has been publicly fighting the increase.

The minimum wage hike bill is now before Congress but it's progress is being hampered by the National Chamber of Commerce campaign against it.

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When trying to entice new industry to this area, a project the Chamber says it has been active in for some time.

Local 301 next week will urge the City Council to adopt the minimum wage proposal which is now before Congress.

The bill also recommends that the Fair Labor Standards Act be extended to retail and service establishments. This section of the bill would bring about nine million more workers under protection of the Act.

CHAMBER ACTION COMMITTEE TO MEET

The Schenectady Chamber of Commerce emergency employment action committee met Thursday to consider two areas:

"Can the important work of this committee be combined with that of other groups? Shall a concentrated effort be made to raise a substantial fund of risk capital to finance production and sale of new ideas and products?"

The committee was formed last year due to the large number of layoffs at ALCO, GE and other business firms in the area.

Its stated objective at that time was to create new jobs on an emergency basis and supplement the efforts made by the Schenectady Industrial Corp. to bring in new industry.

The corporation has hired a full time director and appropriated \$50,000 to promote the area and attract new and expanding industry.

NORMAL JANUARY BUSINESS SLOWDOWN CUTS STATE JOB TOTALS BY 179,000

A normal turn-of-the-year business slowdown cut job levels in New York State by 179,000 in January, according to preliminary figures released today by Industrial Commissioner M. P. Catherwood. The State's non-farm work force totalled 5,854,000 for the month.

Customary post-Christmas layoffs by retail stores, post offices and factories, as well as seasonal declines in construction and other outdoor work, were largely responsible for the employment decline, the Commissioner said.

Of the twenty-one branches of manufacturing, only primary metals, electrical machinery and printing and publishing employed more workers in January than in December. Settlement of a New York City newspaper strike affecting some 15,000 workers accounted for a sharp rise in printing and publishing employment.

Compared with January, 1958, non-farm jobs were down about 77,000. Year-to-year losses were heaviest in manufacturing and trade. Small gains were noted in construction, government and services, however.

New York City employment was down 89,000 from December in the wake of post-Christmas department store layoffs and 22,000 from a year ago as a result of cutbacks in trade and manufacturing.

LOCAL 301 NEWS

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NOVAK STEPS UP CAMPAIGN March 20, 1959

"Vote labor, Vote Novak," became one of the campaign slogans this week as Leon Novak, Local 301 attorney, stepped up his campaign for a post on the City Board of Education.

Novak has been endorsed for the School position by Local 301 and Local 301 AE and CIO Area Council. He has been a part of the labor movement for 29 years. He also has been endorsed by the Citizens committee for public schools. Novak is running against Mario Pacelli, a city attorney who has been twice defeated for the School Board.

Local 301 is setting up a district-by-district campaign to insure that labor is finally represented on this important policy making public body.

Practically every other segment of the community has representation on the school board.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND STILL GROWING

Local 301's scholarship fund continued to grow this week with a total of \$624 reported by Frank Masterson, chairman of the committee.

But Masterson issued a reminder to all members, officers and board members that time for administering and award the scholarship is growing short and that the sooner all contributions are in and counted, the sooner the award machinery can be strated.

The scholarship will be administered by the city school administration and will be given to the youngster with the highest standing and in real need of financial aid.

The scholarship will be in memory of several young men, sons of union members, who have died within the last few years. Masterson said anyone who has not been contacted and wishes to contribute should see their shop steward or executive board member.

JANDREAU TO SPEAK ON SHORTER WEEK

Leo Jandreau, business agent for Local 301, will be heard on Sunday night on Radio station WGY in a discussion of the proposed shorter work week.

The program will be broadcast at 10:30 p.m. Other participants include Dr. Norman Mercer, department of economics at Union college, Wells A. Gray, Empire State Chamber of Commerce and Marvin Wedeen, General Ice Cream Co.

Wedeen will serve as the inquiring citizen and Mrs. T. A. Rich will be moderator.

The topic for discussion will be "What are the implications of a shorter work week?"

A shorter work week has been proposed by the AFL-CIO as one answer to the unemployment problem which has been facing the nation for several years.

STEWARDS MAY BE DROPPED FOR MISSING MEETINGS

Shop stewards who miss two consecutive meetings from now on risk being dropped as representatives of the union.

This was recommended at the last membership meeting and upheld by the Officers and the Executive Board.

Local 301's Constitution provides "any steward who is absent from two consecutive meetings, unless excused by vote of the Executive board shall be automatically dropped as a shop steward."

The Constitution says, however, that the steward may appoint a member from his group to represent him at the meeting so that all groups are represented at the regular monthly meetings.

A letter was sent out this week to all stewards urging better attendance.