

Add Three More Names to List of Union Shop Committeemen



George Walker, left, Local 301 guide, administers the oath of office to a trio of new committeemen, left to right, Joe Baldini, Bldg. 42; Floyd Thomas, Campbell Ave., and Hazel Sitterley, Bldg. 29, at the April membership meeting in union hall.

Ready to Examine Job Value Claims

The preliminary group meetings of committeemen on wage rate inequities were completed last night, and the 301 Executive Board job evaluation committee will begin next week its examination of claims submitted by committeemen.

Job value questionnaires have been distributed to the committeemen at the meetings and through the board members. Information on the questionnaires will serve to analyze the value of a job which a committeeman believes has too low a job rate or AER.

The questionnaires should be returned through the board members within one week.

The study carries out a decision of the membership that hereafter job rate injustices will be negotiated on an overall basis, in comparison with the overall picture of wages in the plant, and no longer through individual grievances. The proposal is that after the membership decides what the proper relationship of job rates should be, negotiations will be opened with the local plant management for a complete set of labor grades and wage scales, such as are in effect in almost all other companies under UE contract.

The survey covers piece work jobs equally with day work jobs. The proposal is to arrive at the job rate on all jobs, and set the piecework AER's by adding the usual 15 percent incentive factor.

Correcting the job rates is just as important for the pieceworkers as for the

Getting Your UE News?

Members not receiving the UE News, the weekly paper mailed to all members by the national union, should tell their committeemen and make sure the local has their correct address.

Pensioners Call on Spicer To Agree to \$100 Pensions

A meeting of 200 GE pensioners, members of the UE-CIO 301 Pension Organization, sent a night letter Tuesday to E. D. Spicer, GE vice-president, demanding that he agree to the UE contract proposal for a minimum \$100 monthly pension.

"Our pensions have always been much too low and now they have been cut by rising costs to the point of starvation," the telegram stated.

"Many in our ranks are dependent on public relief. We believe it is high time that you recognized the claims of those who served the General Electric Co. faithfully for most of their lives."

Girl's Basketball Team Scores Another Victory

The Local 301 girls' basketball team defeated the Pittsfield All-Stars last week at Pittsfield, 48 to 43.

Plans are now underway for a 301 girls' softball team. Watch this paper for date of the first practice game.

day workers, even where piecework earnings happen to be high. Getting the right job rate will protect future earnings.

Ask More Earnings To Offset Speed-up

A special meeting of members in the Turbine Division Tuesday afternoon in two shifts unanimously adopted a resolution submitted by the committeemen, demanding that the price-setting formula be revised where a carboly tool speed-up is introduced, in order to allow the operators the possibility of "a reasonable increase in earnings."

The meeting added its amendment to the resolution, backing up day workers in opposing any speed-up of their work. The amendment also declared that where the piece work machine speed-up results in a lack of adequate service by day workers to piece workers, the piece workers forced into waiting time should be paid average earnings instead of day work waiting time rates.

The resolution submitted by the committeemen and approved by the division membership pledged the division's backing to operators in refusing to work at any reduced prices until the issue of the price-setting formula is settled.

The meeting demanded a prompt meeting with the company at the national level in a further effort to settle the carboly price dispute, and also the question of shift hours for third shift workers in the division.

As an alternative to a revised price-setting formula in connection with the carboly tool speed-up the Turbine committeemen and members have proposed that the work involved be placed on day work at present average earnings.

Electrical Union News

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May 2, 1947

Vote Monday on Wage Settlement

Stewart's Section Leads in Telegrams

William Stewart's section leads the entire plant in the number of committeemen who have sent telegrams to Washington opposing the Hartley and Taft anti-labor bills. The telegrams were paid for by dime contributions of the shop workers whose names and addresses were signed to the wires.

In addition to reporting 11 committeemen last week, Stewart turned in 20 more names this week: Edward Wallingford, Noel Test, Emmett Brennan, R. H. Reisinger, Ray H. Frederick, Roy Hamilton, Sam Dinardo, John De Graft, Clifford Springer, Theodore Griffith, Casmer Kislowski, Robert Finigan, Gabriel Maitino, and James H. Cayea, all of Bldg. 60, and Charles D. Wood, Edwin G. Coons, Joseph H. Hallenbeck, J. C. Nelson, Harold Barber and August Neubauer, all of Bldg. 49.

In Michael Tedisco's section, telegrams were sent by James Mangino and William A. Downs, Bldg. 15; Louis Santabarbara, Bldg. 16, and Stephen Skrzyński, Tedisco, Robert Weston, Frank Capello, and Dominick Tiscione, all of Bldg. 17.

In Charles Ferris' section: Felix Paprocki and George Diemer, Bldg. 13F; Roland Wagoner, Bldg. 259; William Templeton, Bldg. 11, and Ferris, Bldg. 63.

A. J. Spears' section: Spears, Bldg. 107.

301 Organizing Drive

The organizing drive of Local 301 has been extended until June 1, by order of the Executive Board.

The Board also voted Monday that the prizes for signing up new members should be awarded May 1 as originally planned. This week's issue of EU News went to press before names of winners were announced. Stanley Bishop's section was still way in the lead for organizing activities.

By Tuesday night, a total of 475 new members in the plant was reported.

Negotiator



Julius Emspak, a member of Local 301 and international UE secretary-treasurer, was principal negotiator of the UE-GE wage settlement and also took a leading part in securing the agreements with Westinghouse and GM.

UE President To Speak at 301 Meeting

The Local 301 membership and shop committeemen will act on the proposed UE-GE contract settlement at a special meeting at the union hall at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 5. International UE President Albert J. Fitzgerald will be principal speaker.

After two months of negotiations, agreement was reached Saturday in New York City, subject to approval by GE locals throughout the country. Like the Westinghouse and GM settlements, the proposals would give the 125,000 GE workers covered by the contract a pay increase of approximately 15 cents an hour.

The general increase to all hourly rated employees would be 11½ cents an hour. The other 3½ cents would be provided by the six paid holidays and other gains.

Details of Proposals

Here are details of the contract proposals to be voted on:

Wage increase of 11½ cents an hour to all hourly rated employees covered by

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

301 Makes Check-up On Incentive Prices

Local 301 is checking reports of failure in parts of the works to apply the contract provision that:

"New incentive prices will be set on the basis of the established step rate plan for incentive workers."

The company has been asked to survey the plant as to application of this provision. Information also is being prepared to assist committeemen in making their own check.

The action has been taken because of reports of violation in various parts of the Turbine Division.

The step rate plan raised AER's anywhere from ½ cent to 4½ cents. This in turn raised the timing rate for new prices.

SPECIAL MEETING
301 Membership
and
Committeemen
(All Shifts)

Monday, May 5
7:30 p.m.

at
CIO Hall, Erie Blvd. and
Liberty St.

RATIFICATION
of
CONTRACT

301 Votes Monday On Wage Proposals

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

the national contract, who have not left the company before the date required for ratification, May 6. The increase is to be effective as of Apr. 14.

Six paid holidays falling in the regular work schedule to be granted all hourly rated employees. The holidays are New Year's, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Addition to the present vacation clause of a provision that employees with 20 years or more continuous service will receive a third week of vacation.

Guards, Power Station employees and all others on continuous process operations will receive double time when working a holiday and time and one-half when working Sunday.

Employees assigned to repair or installation work off company property will receive double time for hours worked in excess of 12 hours.

Employees reporting to work and told no work is available will receive an additional hour over the 1946 agreement. This brings the figure up to three hours' pay.

Overtime is to be equally divided.

Incentive Workers

Progression schedules to be negotiated for incentive workers.

The company must notify incentive operators when a time study is in order and the purpose of the time study. The steward is to have the right to observe and the foreman is obliged to explain the data used in making up the price from the time study or P. R. tables.

Incentive workers transferred to higher or equally rated jobs where a learning time is incidental, will be guaranteed the previous AER rate for three weeks as a minimum pay.

The number of elected union officers granted plant seniority is increased from eight to 12. Shop representatives are assured of job seniority during lay-offs.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

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IMPORTANT!

Don't miss the Leland Stowe broadcast, sponsored by the national UE, at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday over WSNY (1240 on your dial) and WABY (1400). Also on WBCA (FM).

First Hand News From Washington

William Mastriani of Local 301 recently reported on an interview with Representative Bernard W. Kearney of Gloversville at Washington. Defending his vote for the Hartley Bill, Kearney said he had a "mandate from the people" to vote for such measures. Although Local 301 and other unions opposed him last November he was reelected, he boasted.

Labor's campaign is to defeat anti-labor bills in the Senate, if possible. If anti-union legislation passes the Senate, there will be a Conference Committee to iron out differences between the Senate bill and the Hartley bill. Pressure must be put on Kearney to change his vote when the Conference bill comes up in the House of Representatives. It is also necessary to urge President Truman to veto all anti-labor bills.

And if the bills are vetoed, the heat must be put on Ives and Kearney to see they don't vote to override the veto.

Employees with less than one year's service, who are out because of accident, will be granted credit for such time out up to three months. Employees with one year or more continuous service will be credited with up to six months of the time-out-for-illness, lack-of-work or accident.

Improved arbitration clause names the American Arbitration Association to handle cases of unsettled disputes.

Board Okays Settlement

The Executive Board voted Monday to recommend that the contract proposals be approved by the 301 membership.

A motion was also passed praising the international UE officers for their success in planning and carrying out the bargaining program. A rising vote of thanks was given to Business Agent Leo Jandreau, of the national negotiating committee, for his work at the contract sessions.

The Board pointed out that all members of the local must help defend the contract gains from being destroyed by anti-union legislation.

301 Members Help Handle Bus Crisis

Prompt action by members of the Schenectady CIO Coordinating Committee and the Capital District CIO Council helped avert a citywide bus strike last week and strengthened the grievance machinery of Local 159, Transport Workers Union.

As a result of firings and suspensions, Local 159 voted April 23 to strike against the Schenectady Railway Co. unless A. Frank Geiler was removed as manager.

Victor Pasche, assistant to the business agent of Local 301, Alfred Pelrah and William Templeton, 301 representatives on the Coordinating Committee and Robert Northrop of the CIO Council arranged immediately for a meeting with Mayor Mills Ton Eyck and the city manager. As a result of the meeting, the company backed down from its position, reinstated the men and agreed to arbitrate the cases. Other meetings followed with these union representatives and with Anthony Barbieri, chairman of the Coordinating Committee.

The net result was that, except for a two hour interval when Local 259 had a special meeting, buses ran as usual during the crisis. Local 159 reached an agreement with the company improving grievance machinery, guaranteeing arbitration of disputes and safeguarding the security of its members.

GE Won't Talk Pensions; Union Committee Named

General Electric Co. again this year refused to negotiate pensions with UE or to consider the union's proposal for \$100 minimum monthly retirement pay.

The company took the stand that pensions are not a proper subject for collective bargaining, — one of the provisions of the anti-labor Hartley Bill. GE also insisted that it has no obligation to consider the problems of workers already retired or to increase their pensions.

The proposals of Local 301 were based on the actual needs of GE pensioners. Hundreds of men and women who worked long years for the company have had to seek public welfare assistance because their pensions are so small.

The Local 301 Executive Board voted Monday to set up a union committee to investigate possibilities of establishing a Local 301 fund for the benefit of hardship cases among pensioners.

There's Still Lots of Work to Do on Local 301 Organizing Campaign

As Turbine Division Turns Out to Take Action on Deadlocked Cases



Part of the special meeting for members in the Turbine Division April 22 is shown above. Below is a speakers' platform photograph taken at the same session. At the table, left to right, William Kelly, assistant to the business agent; William Stewart, division chairman, and President Andrew Peterson.

Behind them, left to right, Emmett Brennan, Ray Frederick and Roy Lash, all of Bldg. 60. The meeting passed a resolution demanding a prompt meeting with the company at the national level on the carboloy tool speed-up and on working hours of the third shift.

Gains Are Negotiated For Salaried Workers

Salaried workers in the GE plants where they are organized and come under the UE contract will make substantial gains in pay and in improved working conditions under the proposed UE-GE settlement.

Highlights are:
12½ cents an hour pay increase.
Non-exempt employees to receive time and one-half for Saturday work and double time for Sunday work.
Protection for existing holidays when more than six.

Progression schedules for wage increases to job rate.
Protection from drastic wage cuts when transferred for lack of work.

Additional vacation allowances.
Unfortunately the Schenectady office workers aren't organized, so they will not automatically receive these benefits. In order to forestall union organization, GE will undoubtedly hand them the pay raises and other improvements. However, the unorganized workers will have no way to enforce the new provisions and to press grievances.

Section Night

The next section night at 301 Hall will be May 16 for members in R.I.M., Inc., Tube and Welded Products.

CIO on Air

The National CIO broadcast will be at 6:45 p.m. tomorrow (Saturday) over WOKO.



Save June 29

The annual Local 301 field day will be June 29 at Pete and Sally's Grove, Upper Albany St.

An automobile will be the chief prize again this year. A refrigerator will be second prize and a table model radio, third.

George Judway, chairman of the Activities Committee, has announced the traditional contest for field day queen. The girl in whose name the most tickets are sold will be the winner. Board members should submit the names entered from their sections to Helen Nichol, Bldg. 269, or to Local 301 headquarters, 301 Liberty. Tickets are now being printed.

Grievance Case Wins Pay Raises for 10

Union grievance action recently resulted in the establishment of a new classification for seven workers in Bldg. 49, in pay raises for them and for three group leaders.

The seven are now classified as stator frame group assemblers, with a job rate of \$1.43½ an hour instead of their previous \$1.38½. The change increased the rates of three leaders to \$1.53½.

Ernest Fainelli, shop committeeman, handled the case with the assistance of William Kelly, assistant to the business agent.

Cancer Drive

With 172 of the 400 collection tins for the cancer fund drive turned in, Local 301 has collected \$1244.40.