

Honor Roll

Continued from page 2

H. Taylor
S. Gorzynski
G. Blowers
R. Tomaszek
P. Hill
J. Blaser
C. Snyder
Building 60
M. Janetatz
V. Einspuk
J. Maroncelli
S. VanAllen
Building 81
W. Woodman
E. Onorato
Building 89
D. Brashear
Building 85
J. Ruscitto
W. Tomski
Building 273
A. Kotarski
B. Bartl
E. Criscuolo
J. Antonelli
H. Bukoff
A. Bactens
R. Hutton
A. Feser
I. Martel
P. Piechowski
J. Czarniecki
R. Griffin
J. Mitchell
H. Pope
R. Greiner
W. Danylak
M. Messineo
G. Haviland
T. Carroll
F. Emmett
H. Swetkowski
D. Fonda
N. Jacobsen
O. Thuenner
P. Raviele
S. Tazzycki
H. Adams
S. Machione
R. Duell
A. Merendo
Building 285
J. Ahkoo
Building 73
C. Barthelmas
J. Catalfano
D. Ciampino
D. Fanelli
W. Garrison
G. Gretten
J. Koztowski
G. Kuder
E. Murtlow
Building 269
Helen Nichols
G. McKeone
Campbell Ave.
Floyd Thomas

Cable Workers

Continued from page 2

agree to more than 60 demands to destroy wage rates and contract conditions.

Only two real concessions had to be made by the Cable workers. In one, they gave up the past practices clause, and in the other they changed the basis of vacations from 48 to 40 hour weeks. However, the latter was partially offset by the granting of a third week's vacation to workers with 15 years of service or more.

Most important of all, every attempt to break the union at General Cable failed.

Protests Mount Against Hike Delay

A rising tide of protest against the Wage Stabilization Board's failure to act on the wage increase negotiated by UE with General Electric brought to more than 8,000 the number of signatures collected on petitions to the WSB demanding that it approve the full boost immediately.

Hundreds of petition signatures poured into the 301 office every day in the past week as the anger of the men and women in the Schenectady works over the WSB maneuvering grew.

At the same time, the union took further action to press for approval of the wage increase by sending messages to WSB chairman Archibald Cox and to Congressman Bernard Kearney. A wire to Cox pointed out that WSB passing on the pay hike should be a completely automatic thing since the increase follows closely on patterns already set by the board. A letter to Kearney urged that he use his influence to bring board action.

At the same time, board actions served to justify the warnings of the UE Washington office that a real threat to at least part of the increase exists. Following initial pressure from the union, the

board finally places the UE-GE case on its agenda. But just before reaching it, the WSB members decided to recess for a two-week Thanksgiving "weekend." It will return to session Monday.

The board situation is especially dangerous since the IUE-CIO lawyer is a member of the panel, and Carey appears to be using every trick he knows to delay action on the UE-negotiated raise. In this way the IUE dictator hopes to escape the anger of his membership for his fantastic maneuvering which cost the union more than one month's pay boost. Of course the industry and public members of the board are only too willing to cooperate with the IUE since, in this way, it may possibly deprive thousands of workers of the bigger paychecks which were won through collective bargaining.

However, if UE members here and elsewhere through the country continue the fight they are now making, there can be little doubt that the WSB will be forced by public opinion to give approval to the wage increase within a very short time, perhaps even in time to bring union members their pay boosts and retroactive checks before Christmas.

Executive Board to Represent 301 Sunday At Schenectady State Legislative Parley

UE Local 301 will be represented by its entire executive board at the statewide legislative conference of the union which is to be held in Schenectady on Sunday. The board, which acts as the union's legislative sub-committee, will join with delegates of UE locals from New York

Jury Decertification Smear a Publicity Act

Recent New York federal grand jury recommendations that the National Labor Relations Board decertify the UE was nothing more nor less than a crude publicity stunt.

The grand jury, and the judge who prodded it into its phony recommendations, knew that the NLRB has no power whatever to decertify UE or any other union on recommendations of this kind.

During the hearings that preceded the grand jury's move, UE national officers identified their signatures on Taft-Hartley affidavits and showed that this union is in full compliance with the law in this respect.

Nevertheless, the jury saw fit to make its illegal recommendations on the basis of this testimony. Obviously, the only purpose was to get headlines in the union-hating press across the country, and in this it succeeded.

The attack is by no means finished. The arrest in Dayton, Ohio, of two former UE local officers on charges growing out of their signatures on T-H affidavits is another phase of it. And the UE national leadership has been summoned for a second round of grand jury hearings, this time in Washington. They will appear today.

The newest smear attacks are directed not only against UE and other militant independent unions, but also against several CIO and AFL unions.

City to Buffalo. The conference was called jointly by UE District 3, which represents workers in upstate New York, and UE District 4, which groups together locals in the Metropolitan area.

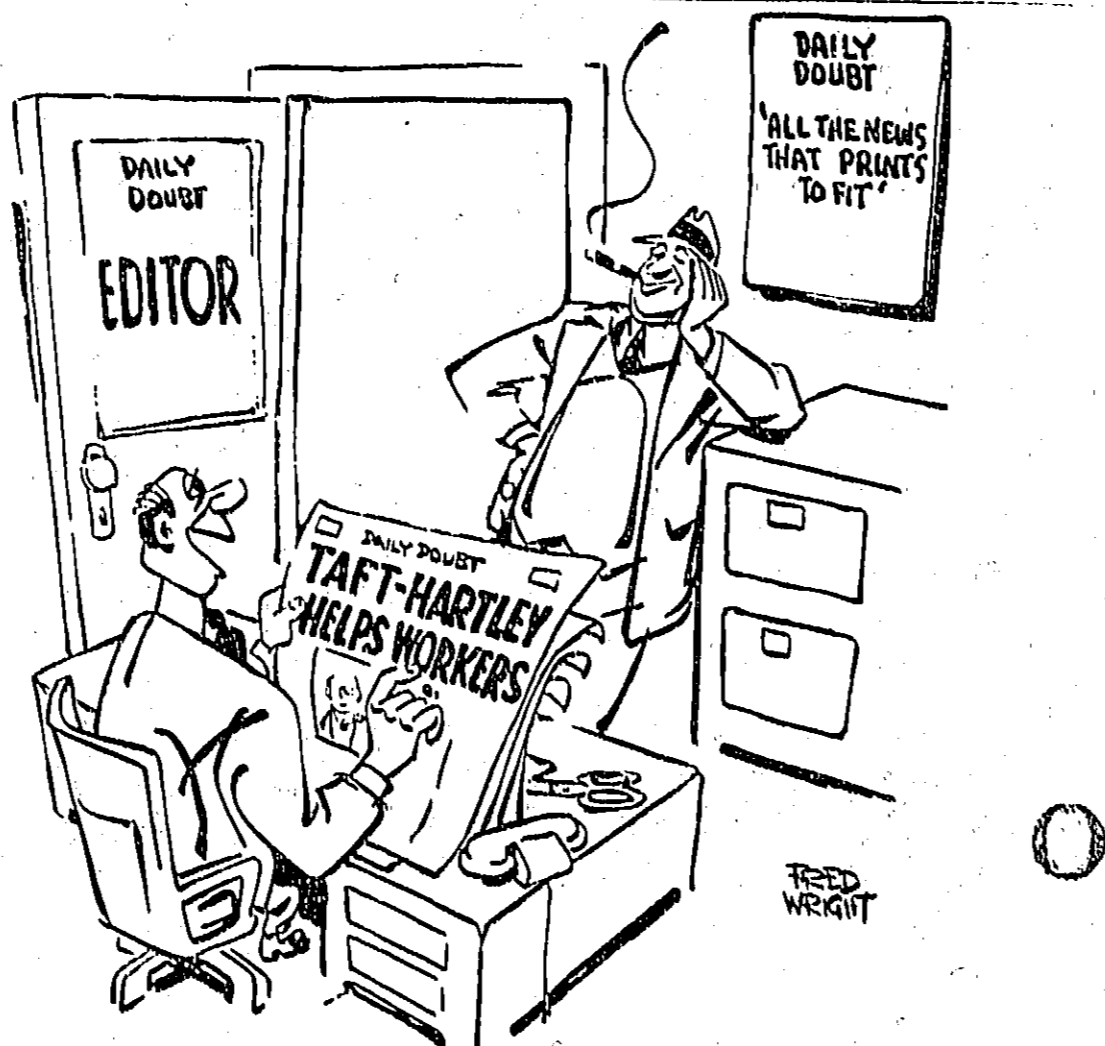
The question of improving compensation laws will occupy an important place on the agenda. Present laws are outdated and provide benefits far below those to which injured workers are actually entitled. The compensation issue assumes particular importance in the light of the disclosure of plans by the big corporations to weaken present compensation legislation with a "Hughes-Brees treatment."

The Hughes-Brees bill last year

was the big corporations' club to cripple unemployment insurance benefits. UE joined with many other unions in an all-out fight against this piece of anti-labor legislation.

However, the same interest which jammed Hughes-Brees down the throats of the people of New York are now trying to do a similar job on workmen's compensation. The Chamber of Commerce is spearheading the attack.

UE will seek to have bills introduced into the state legislature which are aimed at improving and not at tearing down social welfare provisions.



ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA UE LOCAL 301

Vol. 10 — No. 49

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

Friday, December 12, 1952

Cognetta Wins with Whole Slate; Voting For Stewards Slated Monday & Tuesday

Balloting in Shops To Elect Stewards

Elections to fill the 630 key shop stewards' jobs will be held in the Schenectady works on Monday and Tuesday of next week. The voting will be conducted by the UE Local 301 elections committee.

Each group of workers will vote separately for the man or woman who is to represent it in everyday union matters during the coming year. Where it is not possible to hold the voting on either of the designated days, the committee will arrange for elections on other dates.

In all cases, persons elected will have to receive a majority of the votes of his or her fellow workers. In cases where there are more than two candidates, and a majority is not obtained by any single person on the first ballot, runoff elections will be held.

In many respects the shop stewards' elections are the most important of the year for the local. The people chosen will form the foundation for all union activities in 1953. It is the stewards in Local 301 and in other UE locals throughout the country who handle grievances, deal with the foremen, enforce the contract, carry out policies set by the membership, and by their elected leadership and bring the views of their co-workers to the union hall.

The 630 stewards meet once a month to coordinate the activities of the 17,000 members of 301. Among the most important qualifications for each steward will be willingness to participate in these meetings, and the willingness and ability to protect the interests of those they represent against supervision on a day-by-day basis.

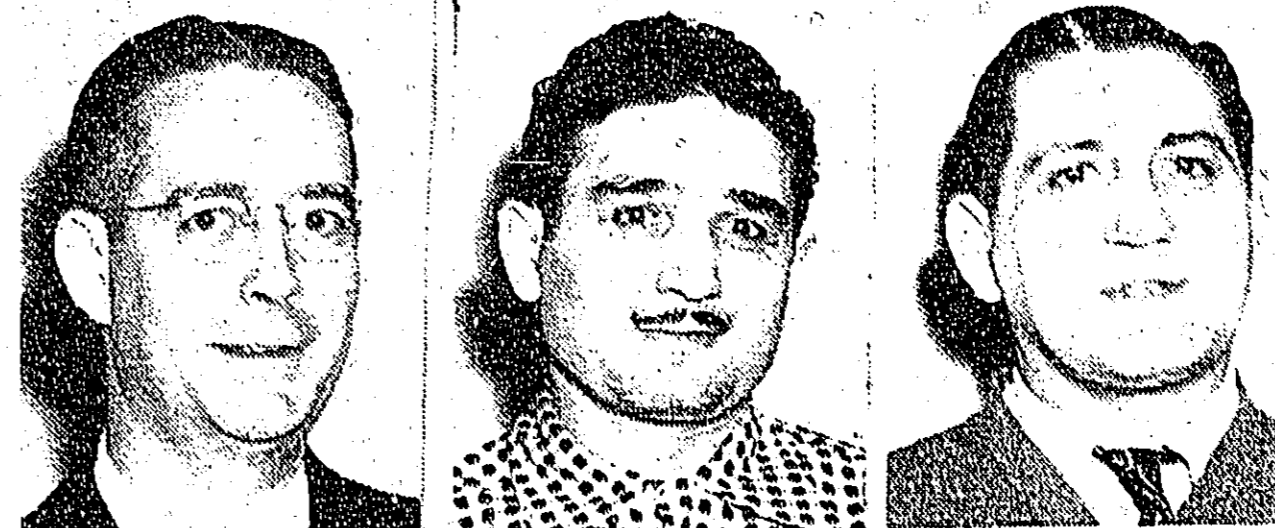
Stewards Meet Monday

When the shop stewards meet in their monthly gathering on Monday, a new system of issuing buttons to those committeemen who attend will be put into effect.

New buttons will be issued every month so that the members of the local will be able to tell whether their stewards represented them at the meeting.

The membership of UE Local 301 voted overwhelmingly to give James J. Cognetta a second term as president of the union in secret ballot elections held last Thursday and Friday. Cognetta's victory was shared by the complete slate on which he ran.

Newly Elected Officers



LEADERS FOR '53. Pictured above are the 12 members elected by UE Local 301 to posts of leadership in last week's balloting. On the top row are President James J. Cognetta, Business Agent Leo Jandreau and Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani. Second row—Recording Secretary Roy Schaffer, Vice President Joseph Alois and Assistant Recording Secretary Rudy Rissland. Third row—Treasurer Joseph Whitbeck, Guide Mario Bagnato and Sergeant-at-Arms Joseph Saccocio. Bottom row—Trustees Vincent Palazek, Edward Luberda and William Garrison.

The veteran Building 52 unionist polled 1,239 votes, more than twice as many ballots as those cast for both of his opponents together. John Clune, Bldg. 273, ran second with 404 votes, and Dewey Brashcar, 89, was third with 204 votes.

The elections also saw the return to office for another year of Business Agent Leo Jandreau. Jandreau without opposition, garnered 1,521 votes.

In the contest for the key office of chief shop steward, William Mastriani, 73A, easily won another term. He polled 1,854 votes against 447 for Rodney Bardin, 273. The local vice presidency was won by a veteran executive board member from turbine, Joseph Alois. Alois received 1,351 votes, as against 445 for William McColl, 273.

The posts of recording secretary and assistant recording secretary were won by Roy Schaffer, 60, and Rudy Rissland, 273. Schaffer, running without opposition, got 1,485 votes, while Rissland defeated Robert Popowitz, 273, by a vote of 1,268 to 395.

There was a three-cornered race for the treasurership, with Joseph Whitbeck, 69, elected over Henry Kaminski, 76, and William Fisher, 81. The count was Whitbeck, 1,253; Kaminski, 237; and Fisher, 125.

Joseph Saccocio, 52, was reelected as sergeant-at-arms, polling 1,507 votes, and Mario Bagnato, 52, was returned as guide, with 1,502 votes. Nether had opposition.

There were five nominees in the race for three trusteeships. Those elected were Vincent Palazek, 60, with 1,489 votes; Edward Luberda, 17, with 1,469 votes; and William Garrison, 73A, who polled 1,311 votes. The other candidates were Anders Christensen, 273, and Nicholas Floriti, 53. They got 447 and 123 votes respectively.

All of these union members will take office on the first of the year and will serve one-year terms. The elections were supervised by a 25-member elections committee under the chairmanship of John Saccocio.

Honor Roll

This week 56 more members of UE Local 301 join the "56 Club." This brings to 426 the total number of union members in Schenectady who have contributed at least \$5 to help their UE brothers and sisters who have been on strike in recent months, and to build a union defense fund large enough to meet the needs of the difficult times ahead. The new additions:

Bldg. 16
J. Califano
Bldg. 69
Harry Wright
Patsy Caffarella
Bldg. 46
John Belwevich
Bldg. 84
R. Wilkie
Bldg. 17
Carl DeCesare
Bldg. 52
J. Audi
A. Campriello
S. Frigello
A. Colandra
W. Wormer
W. Looman
A. Young
P. Stanton
W. Ratajezak
F. Falleschi
H. Clothier
A. Demi
C. Doherty
A. Peterson
V. Martino
P. Cognetta
M. Loidis
J. Donadio
L. DeAngelis
M. Bagnato
L. Rasch
A. Tebano
R. Burns
Bldg. 273
L. Underhill
C. Geer
F. Kokosa
H. Clark
L. Blumhagen
F. Palma
H. Playford
E. Duglin
K. Kerr
J. Hedlund
C. Vitilli
M. Priznar
J. Keeffe
B. Sackett
V. Kodra
N. Ward
W. Decker
K. Huening
C. Dahlam
F. Adamec
T. Duck
J. Hall
C. Dress
J. Tajkowski
S. Witcomb
J. Miller
J. Leahy

UE LOCAL 301
STEWARDS MEETING
2nd SHIFT
Monday, Dec. 15, 1952
1:00 P.M. (before work)
1st and 3rd SHIFTS
Monday, Dec. 15, 1952
7:30 P.M.
Local 301 Hall

Three Leading City Government Officials Will Greet Big Xmas Parties This Weekend

Three top city officials will greet the children of union members this weekend at what promises to be the biggest set of Christmas parties ever sponsored by UE Local 301. Mayor Archibald Wemple, City Manager Morris M. Cohn and Councilman Thomas Moynihan will be the three government leaders to attend the big affairs in the auditorium of Mont Pleasant High School.

There will be three parties sponsored by the union, with the first one getting underway at nine o'clock Saturday morning. The others will be at 1:30 in the afternoon on both Saturday and Sunday.

The 3,500 children who are expected to attend will be treated to a first rate variety show as well as to candy and nuts. To top off the festivities, each child will be given a Christmas present to take home.

While it is hoped that every ticket holder will be taken care of by the three parties, the activities committee has made arrangements so that any kids who might be unable to get in will not be disappointed. These youngsters will be able to get their Christmas gifts and candy at the union hall on Tuesday. The same arrangements



MARTY LYNCH. The comedy juggler who will star in the Christmas Party variety show.

apply to those who asked for Sunday tickets, but who had to take Saturday tickets because the others were all gone. However, only persons who already have tickets will be accommodated in this manner. The hall will be open between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Original plans called for only two parties, but the demand was

so great that another one, the Saturday morning event, had to be added. Even with this addition the full ticket demand could not be met. Plans are already in progress to make sure that no one will be turned away next Christmas.

The big variety show will feature three top acts. Sharing star billing will be Marty Lynch, a comedy juggler; Madej the magician; and ventriloquist Harlan Matson. All three give performances that are aimed at pleasing both children and adults.

Most of the funds for the party have come from profits made by the local on earlier social events, particularly the field day. However, the unexpectedly large demand forced the activities committee to request an additional appropriation from the last membership meeting. This appropriation was granted.

UE ON THE JOB!

Thousands of grievances are handled by UE Local 301 each year at all levels from the steward up to final appeal in New York City. To keep members posted, we shall each week list some of the grievances that have not been settled at the steward-foreman level and have been referred to the executive over-management level.

Bldg. 10C: Borematic operators under Foreman Harley ask that they be properly compensated for time spent in warming up bearings and bleeding hydraulic lines. Supervision is willing to pay only 7 of an hour day work. This is entirely inadequate and the union demands establishment of a price on this operation in accord with past practice.

Bldg. 24: Group working under Foreman Flynn feels that the job rate of \$1.71 is entirely inadequate for the skills required on their job. The union demands proper job evaluation and rate adjustment.

Group working on Sine and Cassine potentiometers feel that the \$1.34 job rate is way below what is merited by their skills and performance. The union demands proper job evaluation and rate adjustment.

Bldg. 28: Frank Massero was out of work due to a back injury. He applied on a number of occasions for limited employment but the employment office was reluctant to reemploy him on account of previous injury. The union demands that his service be restored.

Bldg. 40: Group working on 42" vertical boring mills on miscellaneous details have been timed and classified at \$1.11 timing rate. Recently supervision has transferred some work from lower rated mills and has required the operators to work at \$1.01 timing rate on the \$1.11 machines. The union demands that the higher rate be maintained regardless of the type of work issued in accord with past practice.

Bldg. 46: C. H. Chamberlin was

hired on 3-17-52 as a B inspector with a \$1.65 starting rate. His last increase, on 10-22, brought his rate to \$1.71. He has had about 5 years experience, and after 4 weeks on the job he replaced a B inspector on 3rd shift. He has given normal performance since. Based on all of these factors, the union demands that Chamberlin be given the full job rate to which he is entitled.

Bldg. 49: Shippers group does not feel that their rate is adequate when compared to rates being paid for similar work through the plant. The union demands proper reevaluation and rate adjustment.

Bldg. 52: Richard Danham was put on a time study on an oil tank job. The study was halted allegedly because of unsatisfactory performance. At the time supervision informed him that he would be paid average earnings for the rest of the work. However, he was paid only AER. The union demands that average earnings be paid in accord with agreement.

Albert C. Fonda is classified as a gas cutter machine operator with

a \$1.60 day work rate. He was assigned to a machine in May and transferred to a larger one in July. At the time he was given the transfer, supervision assured Fonda that he would be put on piece work. One time study was started on his machine, but in the middle of the study a much larger machine was introduced to replace the one Fonda was working on. Shortly after this, the study was stopped. The union believes that this operator is performing work which justifies a much higher rate, particularly with the additional skills now required. Reevaluation of the job with a 3-step increase to \$1.76 is demanded.

Bldg. 66: The cutting price of \$2.76 on job 513309-2 was shown to be entirely inadequate when it took operator Louis Memella 5 1/2 hours to do the job. The present price is based on a 10-year-old standard pricing table and many factors are not taken into consideration. Therefore, the union demands an adequate price readjustment and application of past practices in pricing such jobs.

Bldg. 84: This group of tractor trailer operators protest the addition of new duties to their jobs without any increase in rate. They do not feel that the new system of checking and signing for contents of the loads is practical and they ask a return to past practice.

Bldg. 105: George A. Schoneich demands an increase of the \$1.01 timing rate on the hydro-tel in order to bring the rate in line with those for similar machines in the plant.

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Local 301
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ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

SPEAKERS

Two of the key speakers in the UE State Legislative Conference were Leon Novak, UE Local 301 attorney, and Russ Nixon, the union's Washington representative. At the right Novak discusses compensation as District 3 President Lewis King and District 4 Secretary William Wallace listen. Below Nixon makes a point.



Pressure Rises for Boost OK as Group Visits D. C.

UE Local 301 joined with union locals across the nation this week in applying mounting pressure on the wage freeze artists to approve the wage increase negotiated by UE with GE before Christmas. Here were some of the major developments in the campaign:

1. Local 301 had collected 9,500 signatures on its petition demand-

ing that the increase be approved by the beginning of this week.

2. A national UE delegation, including 301 Business Agent Leo Jandreau, went to Washington on Wednesday to put the union's demands before Economic Stabilizer Roger Putnam. The delegation included representatives of UE locals in the GE, Westinghouse and Sylvania chains, all of which are affected by the General Electric case. Putnam pledged quick action on the increase.

3. A campaign developed to put pressure on the corporations to use their influence to make sure that the full wage increase which they agreed to is given Washington OK.

The resignation of the industry members of the Wage Stabilization Board, an action dictated by the National Association of Manufacturers, posed a new threat to our wage increase. The wage freeze machinery has already stalled the boost for three months, and this may offer a new excuse for more stalling.

There can be no doubt that the companies are now banking on the incoming Republican administration to tighten the wage freeze, and possibly to beat UE members out of the wage increase they won.

Unfortunately, although the recent CIO convention finally came out against the wage freeze, labor members of the board have been playing politics with our increase, and have failed to apply pressure for its approval. In this, they have been encouraged by IUE-CIO dictator James Carey, who is trying to escape the anger of his own membership. This anger stems from the Carey maneuvering which robbed IUE members of a full month's wage increase.

State Legislative Conclave Maps Fights on Local Level

A 19-point legislative program and a plan to concentrate on key issues locally was devised by the UE New York State Legislative Conference held at the Schenectady union hall on

men's compensation law. These efforts would include using all available influence on local political groups. Among the improvements outlined were the increasing of maximum benefits from \$32 to \$40 a week, the raising of the badly inadequate sums allowed for major, permanent disabilities, and a provision to pay workers for time lost in compensation courts.

These were among the suggestions brought to the conference by UE 301 attorney Leon Novak. Novak, one of the three major speakers at the conference, told of his experiences in handling hundreds of compensation cases a week.

The other speakers were Russ Nixon, UE national legislative representative, and Clifford T. McAvoy, who handled union legislative problems in New York State.

Nixon warned the conference of the increasing attacks on the labor movement which can be expected in the coming year from the new administration. He asserted that "united political action by the entire labor movement is the only possible way for unions to defeat the plans of big business to destroy the rights of working men and women."

Among the important points on the UE state legislative program are establishment of a \$1.25 state minimum wage, repeal of the Hughes-Brees amendments, increasing of state unemployment insurance benefits to \$40 a week, with an additional \$3 for each dependent, turning the State equal pay law into a really enforceable statute which would end the "pay the women less" racket, and a determined fight to reduce taxation for working people and to bar all infringements on the civil rights of labor and the people of the state.

On the national level, the program outlines a campaign to repeal Taft-Hartley, end the wage freeze, establish effective price controls, pass a Fair Employment Practices act and to restore the Bill of Rights to its full meaning.

In addition to this positive legislative program, this union and all other unions will be faced with a major defensive struggle. There can be little doubt but that the new Congress will seek to impose many new anti-union laws on the people. These laws must be blocked if organized labor is to survive.

Free Harold Ward—Company Murder Frame-up is Defeated

Complete freedom was won last week for Harold Ward, Negro leader of the International Harvester strikers and victim of a vicious company-staged murder frameup. Ward was acquitted of any guilt in the death of a non-striking worker by a Chicago jury.

Carey Maneuvers Irk Even Top CIO Bigwigs

IUE-CIO dictator Jim Carey would have walked away with the honors had a poll been taken to determine the "most unpopular man of the hour" at the recent CIO convention, according to reports made by newspaper men and women who covered the Atlantic City conclave.

Carey's maneuvering and bald-faced ambition were too much for even many of the other top CIO leaders to stomach, these reports reveal. Many were particularly bitter because the ace union-splitter deserted his chief benefactors, the CIO steelworkers and CIO Director of Organization Alan Haywood to support Walter Reuther for the CIO presidency. The reason was an obvious deal by Carey to keep his job as secretary-treasurer, a job which most CIO officials wanted liberated from the Carey grip.

Despite this, Carey's opportunism is likely to prove costly, since the steelworkers and Haywood have been the IUE's chief "angels" in providing raiding funds. It looks as if "Jim-boy" may have dried up his own well.

Funds for the Ward defense were supplied by the national UE, aided by strike contributions from locals throughout the U. S. and Canada.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS