

Fitzgerald Urges Unity in Union

There's room for honest differences of opinion in UE, President Albert Fitzgerald told the 301 stewards' meeting in Schenectady Tuesday night.

"Your international officers won't quarrel with people who differ from us honestly. As long as they stick to facts and debate on the issues we will respect their opinions, the way we expect them to respect ours. This is a democratic organization and an American one."

Fitzgerald said he had congratulated the new officers and will cooperate 100 per cent with them, and "will expect the same from them."

"The national office tries to keep its nose out of local elections," he said, "though we often hear the brunt of attacks in leaflets and pamphlets."

Condemning the anti-union publicity campaign connected with the recent elections here, Fitzgerald served notice that "if ever again the national organization is the issue in such an election you'll find the leaders of your national organization here in Schenectady defending ourselves from those unjust attacks."

Appeals for Unity

In a plea for unity, Fitzgerald urged, "Let's start tonight working together for the people in the shops."

Newspaper pictures, like the "Stalin" photograph at the Mont Pleasant "rump" meeting "make a mockery of a good, honest trade union organization," Fitzgerald said. He warned that newspaper smears in Schenectady are reprinted from coast-to-coast.

He also condemned the so-called "Freedom Bus" which the "Democratic Action" group sent throughout Schenectady this week with red-baiting anti-union propaganda.

"Ask the people responsible for it why they didn't have a Freedom Bus going through Schenectady pointing out the GE dealings with the Nazis," he demanded.

"Ask them why they don't spend the same time and effort fighting the manufacturers who are trying to destroy us as they do in attacking this union organization."

Newspaper Anti-Labor

Fitzgerald warned that newspaper members who "run to a newspaper" with union disagreements are going "to the natural born enemy of the labor movement" and are "traitors to their oath of office."

He deplored that the stewards' meeting had to spend time "on such

Elected to Board



Helen Quirini

William Mastriani

301 Presses Cases On Holiday Pay

A discussion of holiday pay grievances on behalf of members who have been working Saturdays is continuing between Local 301 and Building 41.

New quirks in foremen's judgments as to who would have been called in last Saturday if it had not been New Year's day have been reported.

The union is arguing that a foreman's judgment cannot be accepted arbitrarily. Building 41 is taking considerable time investigating union claims.

tripe" when it should be discussing a wage reopening program, repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law, extension of social security and other vital matters.

There's "a lot of bunk" spread about the Atomic Energy situation, Fitzgerald charged.

"Sure, this business about GE not recognizing UE can spread to other departments," he said. "It can spread if you keep yourself so internally divided that the company can move in and destroy the union."

The union can protect its members only if GE fears the union because of its strength, he pointed out.

Nailing a Rumor

One of the new forms of the anti-UE attack, he said, is a rumor that there's a rift among the top three UE officers. There is no truth in it, he declared.

"I would not want to be an officer of this organization unless Jules Emspak and Jim Matles were officers of this organization," he said.

He declared that "none of the three of us was ever seen taking off our hat to anyone when it comes to our loyalty to this union and to this country."

Executive Board Members Elected

William Mastriani, former chief shop steward, was elected to the Executive Board Wednesday to represent Buildings 73 and 73A. Helen Quirini, former recording secretary, was elected woman Board member at large.

Shop stewards of all sections elected their Board members that day at 301 Hall, under supervision of the Election Committee. Those elected were:

Henry Kaminski, unopposed, to represent Bldgs. 68, 72, 76, 80, 84, 205, 227, 238 and 241.

Dewey Brashear, unopposed, re-elected for Bldgs. 81 and 89.

E. J. LaBombard, Jr., re-elected from Bldgs. 85, 93, 97 and 109.

Sam Scott, re-elected unopposed from Bldgs. 273 and 285.

Raymond Flanigan, re-elected from Bldg. 49.

William Stewart, re-elected from Bldg. 60.

Willard Kuschel, re-elected from Bldgs. 42, 46, 48 and 50.

James Cognetta, re-elected unopposed to represent Bldgs. 52, 64, 66 and 49 Annex.

Joseph A. Mangino, re-elected unopposed to represent Bldgs. 29, 64,

67, 71, 75, 77, 79 and 234.

Anthony Villano, re-elected from Bldgs. 5, 37, CAP, Peek St. and Knolls.

Leland Sisto, re-elected unopposed from Bldgs. 59 and 269.

A. J. Spears, re-elected from Bldg. 107.

Stanley Bishop, re-elected unopposed from Bldgs. 65 and 69.

Robert Phillips, elected from Bldgs. 57, 87, 91, 95, 98A, B, C, D, 99A, B, 101 and 105.

Anthony J. Esposito, re-elected from Bldg. 53.

Sidney Friedlander, re-elected from Bldgs. 15, 17 and 19.

William Templeton, elected from Bldgs. 13, 13F, 61, 63, 258, 259, 265, 49 Patrol, 11 Test Maintenance.

Albert E. Davis, re-elected from Bldgs. 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 28.

John Braunstein, re-elected from Bldgs. 18, 18A, 40, 40B and 41.

Joseph Kelly, elected from Bldgs. 12, 14 and 16.

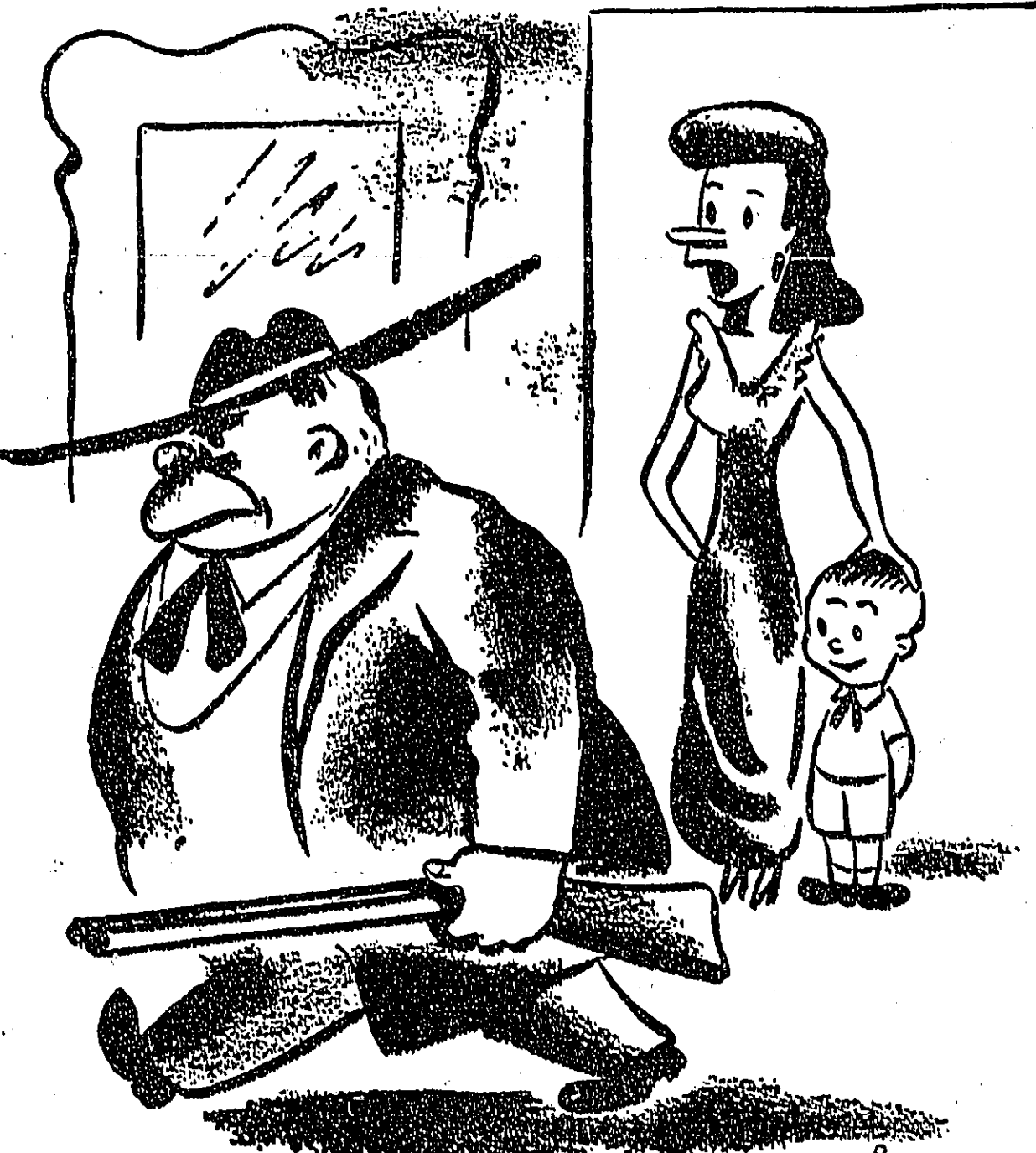
Fred Pacelli, re-elected for second shift at large.

UE Broadcast

Tune in on the Arthur Gaeth broadcast, sponsored by the national UE, at 10 p.m. Monday on WXXW, Albany (850 on your dial).

CONGRESSMAN DRIPP

BY YOMEN



"BUT, DARLING, ONE SHOTGUN CAN'T KILL ALL YOUR ENEMIES."

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

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Membership Meeting Will Be Next Week

Election of delegates to the GE Conference Board of UE will be one of the most important pieces of business at 301's first membership meeting of the new year next week.

First and third shift members will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18, at Mont Pleasant High School. The second part of the meeting will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19, for second shift members at 301 hall.

The new 301 Executive Board, which had its first meeting Monday night, voted to recommend that the 301 membership this year elect six delegates, instead of the customary three delegates, to the GE Conference Board. The seriousness of the problems facing the union in connection with GE negotiations warrants the larger representation, the Board felt.

The agenda recommended by the Board for the meeting is as follows:

- Pledge of allegiance to the flag.
- Reading of minutes.
- Swearing in of new stewards.
- Election Committee report.
- Induction of officers and Executive Board by a national officer.
- Recommendations of Executive Board.
- Action of shop stewards.
- GE Conference Board delegates election.
- New business.
- Good and welfare.

Shorter Lunch Hour Asked for Knolls I

Hourly rated workers at the Knolls I research laboratory want a half-hour lunch period like the rest of the plant.

A formal grievance, filed by Shop Steward William Weber and Board Member Anthony Villano, seeks reduction from the present hour period to half an hour for the entire group. This week the case reached the works manager's level after several discussions at lower levels.

The case is a good chance for GE to show how serious it is about its New Year's resolution. The resolution said GE will do everything in its power to take into consideration the wishes and feelings of employees.

UE Delegates Visit Capitol To Fight T-H

Delegations from all UE districts in the nation are in Washington, D. C. this week giving leaders of Congress and the Administration first hand reports on the demand back home for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law and return of the Wagner Act.

Local 301 is represented there by Board Member Willard Kuschel, who was unanimously selected by the Board meeting Monday night. More signatures for the UE petition demanding repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law were gathered in Kuschel's section, Buildings 42, 46, 58 and 50, than in any other section. In addition to Kuschel, there are two other delegates from locals in UE District 3.

Kuschel took with him to Washington Wednesday the petitions signed at the Schenectady plant to add to the thousands upon thousands of signatures gathered from coast to coast by UE members.

The delegations were to call on the Congressmen and Senators from their states and districts. Plans also were made for the UE members to meet with Vice-President Barkley, Senate Majority Leader Lucas, and Senator Thomas of Utah, who will be chairman of the Senate Labor Committee this year. In the House of Representatives the group had appointments with Spaker Rayburn, Majority Leader McCormack and Representative Lesinski of the House Labor Committee. A visit to the White House was also scheduled.

UE Radio Program

The Arthur Gaeth broadcast, sponsored by the national UE, is at 10 p.m. every Monday on WXXW, Albany (850 on your dial).

ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS



Workmen's Compensation Conference Called by UE at Albany February 16

UE Districts 3 and 4 have asked other trade unions and civic, social and professional organizations to join in a statewide conference on improving the Workmen's Compensation Law at 1 p.m. Feb. 16 at the Hotel Ten Eyck, Albany.

The 301 Executive Board voted Monday night to recommend to the membership that Helen Quirini and James Cognetta be sent as delegates from 301. The recommendation will be presented to the membership meeting next week.

Since the law was passed in 1914 it has been improved very little. In almost every respect it fails to meet the need of injured workers, but has saved employers large sums by drastic limits on their liability for accidents.

Need for changes in the law were shown clearly in the UE investigation of silicosis at the Elmira GE foundry. The union found 90 workers suffering from this dreaded lung disease, rising directly out of the work they perform. Under the present law only 12 of them are eligible for any benefits. Symptoms of mercury poisoning

Midnight Party For Second Shift

Second shift workers will have a social at the union hall at midnight Jan. 28, directly after work. There will be darts, cards, ping pong, beer and hot dogs. Tickets are 50 cents and can be bought from the second shift stewards.

Stewards Approve Convention Reports

The report on the State CIO convention at Syracuse, submitted by the five delegates from Local 301, was overwhelmingly approved by the shop stewards meeting Jan. 4. So was a supplemental report by Leo Jandreau, one of the delegation and a member of the State CIO Executive Board.

"Those who dominated the convention originally had no position on a wage program," the delegation reported.

At the CIO Executive Board meeting Jandreau insisted that wages be put on the agenda. The majority of the Board then voted to present to the convention the resolution on wages adopted by the National CIO convention. This resolution bases any wage increase demand on "reasonable profits."

Wage Resolution

The 301 delegation and delegates from many other unions felt this resolution was inadequate. In their behalf Jandreau introduced to the convention a resolution calling for a united CIO campaign for higher wages, wage increases without price increases, opposition to the speed-up, and opposition to any government plan to freeze wages.

Although this resolution was defeated, it gained widespread support from rank-and-file delegates of other unions.

Report by Jandreau

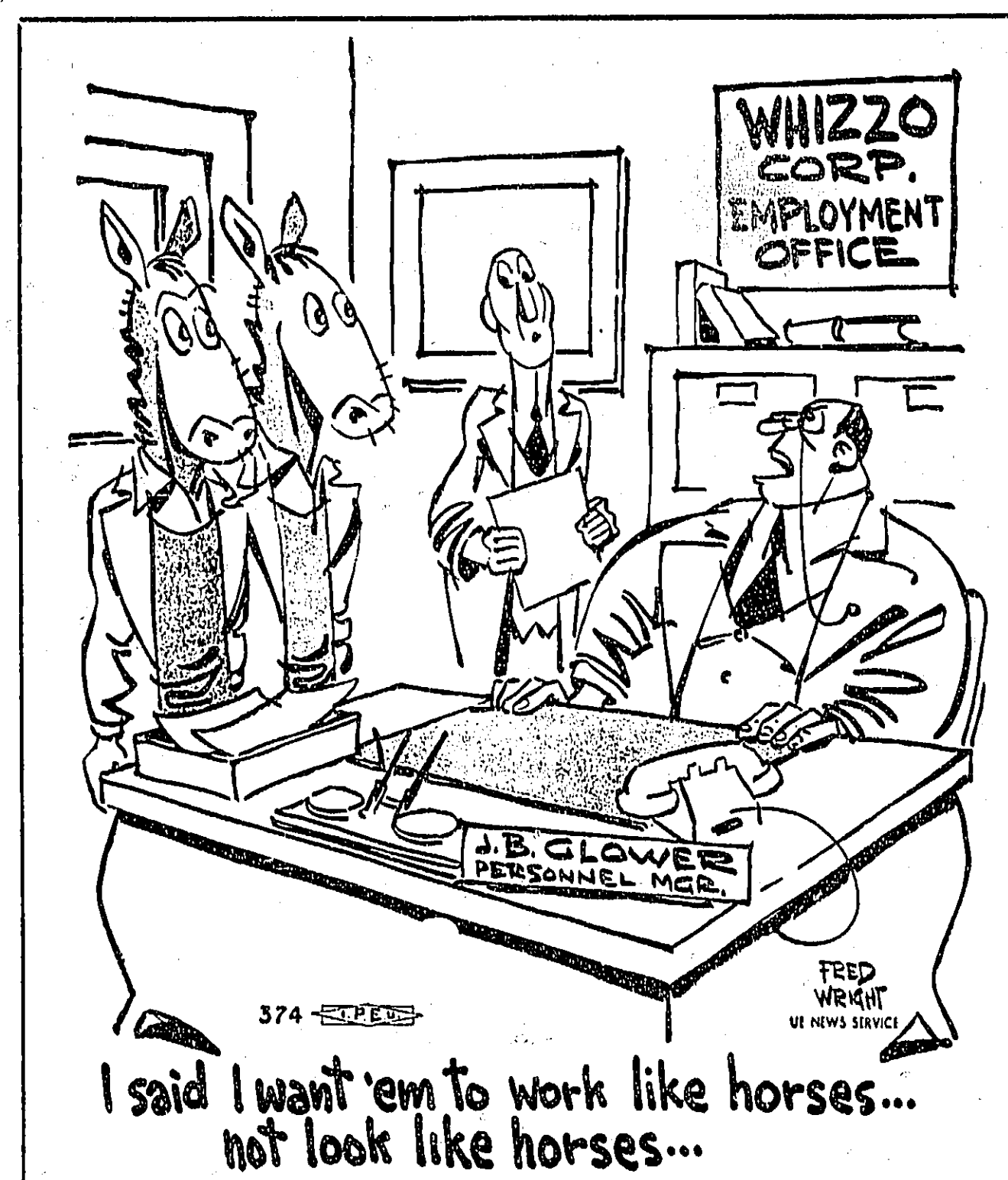
Jandreau reported that he left the convention hall during the speech by James B. Carey, former UE president, because Carey has been condemned by UE for his activities against the union. The 1948 UE convention consisting of elected delegates representing 600,000 UE members, by an overwhelming vote passed a resolution exposing and denouncing Carey's anti-UE activities.

Other 301 delegates to the CIO convention were William Templeton, William Stewart, Joseph Sacocio and Fred Pacelli. Jandreau was reelected to the State Executive Board.

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301 Starts Survey On Vacation Schedule

Shop stewards in Industrial Control, Induction Motors, Wire and Cable, Industrial Heating and Electronic Tube are to make a survey in these divisions of the reactions of the workers to the vacation shut-down schedule.

In accordance with a decision of the Executive Board, Business Agent Leo Jandreau this week sent the stewards forms on which they are to mark how many workers approve or how many object to the schedule announced for this year by the company.

If there is widespread dissatisfaction in any division about its schedule the union will take up the matter with management. During the Executive Board discussion of this problem, several members pointed out that in such negotiations GE will have a chance to apply its New Year's resolution about being "more responsive to the needs, wishes and feelings" of employees.

Wage Increases

The new UE agreement with National Metal Edge Box Company at Philadelphia provides pay increases of 10 cents an hour for machinists, 12½ cents an hour for tool and die makers and 15 cents for painters.

301 Schedule of Meetings To Continue As in Past

The 301 Executive Board decided Monday night that the schedule of meetings for the union should continue unchanged.

The regular 301 membership meeting will be the third Tuesday night of every month for first and third shift members, and the third Wednesday afternoon for second shift members.

The shop stewards' meeting will be the first Tuesday night of each month.

The Board will meet the second and fourth Monday nights each month.

Hodges, 2 Pensioners To Attend Conference

301 Vice-President William Hodges and two members of the UE-301 Pension Organization will attend a conference called by the national UE Jan. 26 at Lynn, Mass. on social security, pensions and the organizing and activities of pensioners' clubs. The meeting will be at the headquarters of UE Local 201 of the GE plant.

The 301 Executive Board voted Monday night to send Hodges and the two pensioners.

BUILD THE UNION

Just How 'Unselfish' Is GE Atomic Work?

The General Electric Company claims that in the management of atomic plants it is performing "an unselfish public service" at "a total profit of \$1.00 for several years' work."

But the Big Business magazine, Fortune, gives a different picture in an article, "The Atom and the Businessman", in the January, 1949 issue.

"What benefits does GE derive from its AEC (Atomic Energy Commission) contract that redound to its advantage as a private company?" the Fortune article asks.

"It would seem to derive a good deal. . . . GE is in the first line to benefit from future atomic-power possibilities. It is obtaining immediate experience with a host of auxiliaries, isotopes, new instruments, new plant conceptions, new gadgets of every description. It is able to train and develop men at government expense."

Fortune also reported that the contract between AEC and GE has an item for "overhead" of \$2,400,000 a year, or \$9,600,000 for the four years of the contract. As would be expected, GE says that this is a cost, but "AEC accountants believe that some—or all—of this sum is profit."

One provision of the AEC contract with GE was overlooked by Fortune. The AEC agrees to pay prices to GE "for products, materials, equipment and supplies . . . to include a reasonable profit." An estimated \$92 million of such equipment is to be provided by GE. Based on GE's reported overall profit margin, the company's gross profit on its sales to the atom plants it is operating will be over \$11 million a year.

GE to Obey Ruling On Strikers' Rights

The General Electric Company has notified the national UE office that it will comply with the federal order to restore to the seniority records of employees the nine weeks during which they took part in the UE strike in 1946.

The Taft-Hartley Board, which inherited the case from the old Labor Relations Board, finally ruled in November that GE had discriminated against the strikers by reducing their seniority. But the Board cancelled out most of the value of the decision by ruling that GE need not include the strike period in figuring vacation and pension rights, but only for lay-offs, transfers and rehiring.

Recently Elected Shop Stewards Take Oath of Office



These shop stewards were sworn in Jan. 4 by UE President Albert J. Fitzgerald at 301 Hall. They were elected during the past few weeks.

Now Charlie Wilson Accuses CIO Of Socialist, Un-American Program

GE President Charles E. Wilson thinks the national CIO legislative program is "nakedly socialistic."

Mind you it's not just those so-called "leftwing unions" that displease Wilson. It's the whole CIO.

He told the Syracuse Manufacturers' Association Jan 6 that the CIO legislative program is "utterly foreign to every traditional concept of the relations between American government and American business."

Of course he used the occasion to speak once again in opposition to a fourth round of wage increases, unless it's accompanied by a speed-up. The way he put it was that raises in wages and salaries, "to the extent that they are not balanced by a comparable increase in output per man hour, can only result in higher prices." Not a word, of course, about GE's all-time profit record for 1948.

As for prices, Wilson thought it unfair for labor unions to talk as though "a handful of powerful business men got together and established a policy of charging all the traffic would bear." But then he proceeded to admit that charging all the traffic will bear actually is the principle on which industry operates.

"Our system has demonstrated over the years," he said, "that it has a built-in corrective factor for too-high prices in the nature of the competitive market itself. If the

Wonder If Wilson Knows About This

"In 1949, we are going to try to be a better employer," L. R. Boulware, GE vice-president, announced in one of his full-page messages, in the Works News Jan. 7.

To carry out this fine resolution, GE is backed up by a new all-time record in profits.

So we expect that any minute now Boulware will invite UE into conference and offer a general wage increase, as well as propose to work out that wage structure to clear up job rate injustices, negotiate a good pension plan, better seniority, holidays and vacations, grievance procedure, third shift hours, and the other things Local 301 has been pressing for during 1948.

Of course, that is not what Charlie Wilson has been saying in his newspaper interviews and speeches before business groups.

Local 301 members can consult the union's lawyer, Marshall Perlin, at the union office every Monday through Thursday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. He is available by appointment at other times when Compensation Court sessions and other duties permit.

price is too high, the consumer won't buy and what can Congress evolve that will work more surely than that?"

Union Attorney

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Board Protests to CIO About Maurillo Speech

The Executive Board of Local 301 voted Monday night to send a letter to Allen Haywood, CIO organizational director, protesting against the action of John Maurillo, Syracuse sub-regional CIO director, in taking part Jan. 3 in the illegal meeting called by two new officers of Local 301 at Mont Pleasant High School.

"During the big 1946 strike" the letter pointed out, "Brother Maurillo was conspicuous in Schenectady by his absence. We were able to win our many struggles with General Electric without his assistance. Our membership is fully capable of electing its officers and Executive Board without his help or interference."

Board Backs Strike Of Taxi Drivers

By order of the 301 Executive Board, an investigation is being made of reported scabbing by a 301 member against the Transport Workers Union's strike at the Diamond Taxi Co. The Board directed that if the report is substantiated, charges be filed against the man.

The Board meeting Monday night endorsed the taxi strike which started Jan. 8 and condemned any strikebreaking activity. Nineteen drivers went on strike after the third union member in succession had been fired.