

## Meeting with Male Continues Deadlock In Turbine Dispute

The dispute over the proposed carbonyl tool speed-up in the Turbine Division was discussed by Louis Male, general superintendent, last Thursday, at his request, with the special committee of turbine representatives, but the case remained at the New York level.

Male did not change from the position taken the week before by his assistant, A. C. Stevens. He said the company would "bend over backward to make the price adequate" so the operator could make "past earnings or better", but that he could not agree to any percentage increase in piece price allowances. He made it clear the prices would be based on past earnings.

**Workers Insist on Higher Earnings**  
The Turbine Division Committeemen have insisted that the new prices must offer the possibility of increased earnings. Male said he saw no increased skill nor any material increase in effort connected with the proposed speed-up.

Male also said that "fundamentally" he expected the workers to share in production improvements, but that this could not be done on individual jobs, only on a long range basis.

### Increased Strain

President Andrew Peterson of Local 301 declared that if the carbonyl program is to be successful, the worker must get something out of it to make up for the increased strain and effort.

Male tried to have the committee agree to proceed with the company's proposed speeds while the case was discussed in New York. The committee rejected this, and Male agreed to have no change pending the New York discussions.

## Philadelphia Drops 1946 Strike Case

City authorities of Philadelphia have dropped the contempt of court charges against 11 UE members, arising out of the strike against the General Electric Co. last winter.

If GE wants to press the charges, it will have to handle the case itself as a civil, not a criminal suit, through its own lawyers. And if GE now turns down requests of locals to drop the matter, it can no longer use the excuse that city authorities are bringing the case to trial.

A Philadelphia jury several months ago found 16 UE members innocent of other charges resulting from the strike.

## Discussing Problems of Screw Machine Section



Workers from the Screw Machine Section, Bldg. 42, at a meeting at Local 301 Hall Mar. 7 at which they took up working conditions and piece work prices. At the table are shown Ray Flanagan, assistant to the business agent, with back to the camera; John Ref, a member of a special committee of the section, and Willard Kuschel, Board member, facing camera. M. Milkins of the special committee was absent because of illness.

## GE Penny-Pinching Pensions Criticized By Old Timers Trying to Live on Them

Pensioners compared notes on the hardships caused by their low pensions, in a free discussion at the meeting of the UE-CIO 301 Pension Organization, last week. The newly-formed group voted to meet regularly at the union hall the first Wednesday of every month, at 2 p.m. The next meeting will be April 2.

One pensioner told the story of a party being given for pensioners at the plant, and his being asked to call for another old-timer. He stopped at the man's home, saw it in darkness, and was about to go on, thinking no one was home. Just to make sure, he rang the doorbell. The door opened, and there in darkness, was the old-timer he was supposed to pick up. His pension did not allow him to have lights, the man explained.

Another pensioner brought along a letter from GE explaining he would get all his pension from the federal government because his federal Social Security payment would be about \$29 a month and the GE monthly rate would be only \$27.94.

The GE official who wrote the letter had finished up, "I personally congratulate you on your long and honorable term of service, and express to you our appreciation of that service."

The meeting voted to invite speakers on the Townsend Plan and from the Social Security Board to future meetings. They decided to write letters to Congressmen in favor of liberalized social security and against anti-labor legislation.

## Apprentice System Set Up for Molders

A regulated apprenticeship system for molders in the three foundries at the GE Works here was set up in discussions between a molders' committee and the local management, concluded last week. A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, signed a written memorandum on the subject. There had been an apprenticeship system for molders before, but it had been discontinued.

An apprentice will work only six weeks to two months on any given job, and only the last week on any job alone on production. During the last 26 weeks of the course the apprentices will be allowed to work alone on production. Journeymen instructing apprentices will be paid average earnings. An instructor will be in charge of the apprentices.

The committee negotiating the case included Board Member Albert Spears, Committeemen Elroy J. Marine, John Jablonski, and Anthony Pivacek, of Bldg. 57, Charles Aussiker, Hans Schott, and Jack Kileoyne of 95, and Charles J. O'Malley and Robert Wiley of 99A, assisted by Ray Flanagan, assistant to the business agent.

# Electrical Union News

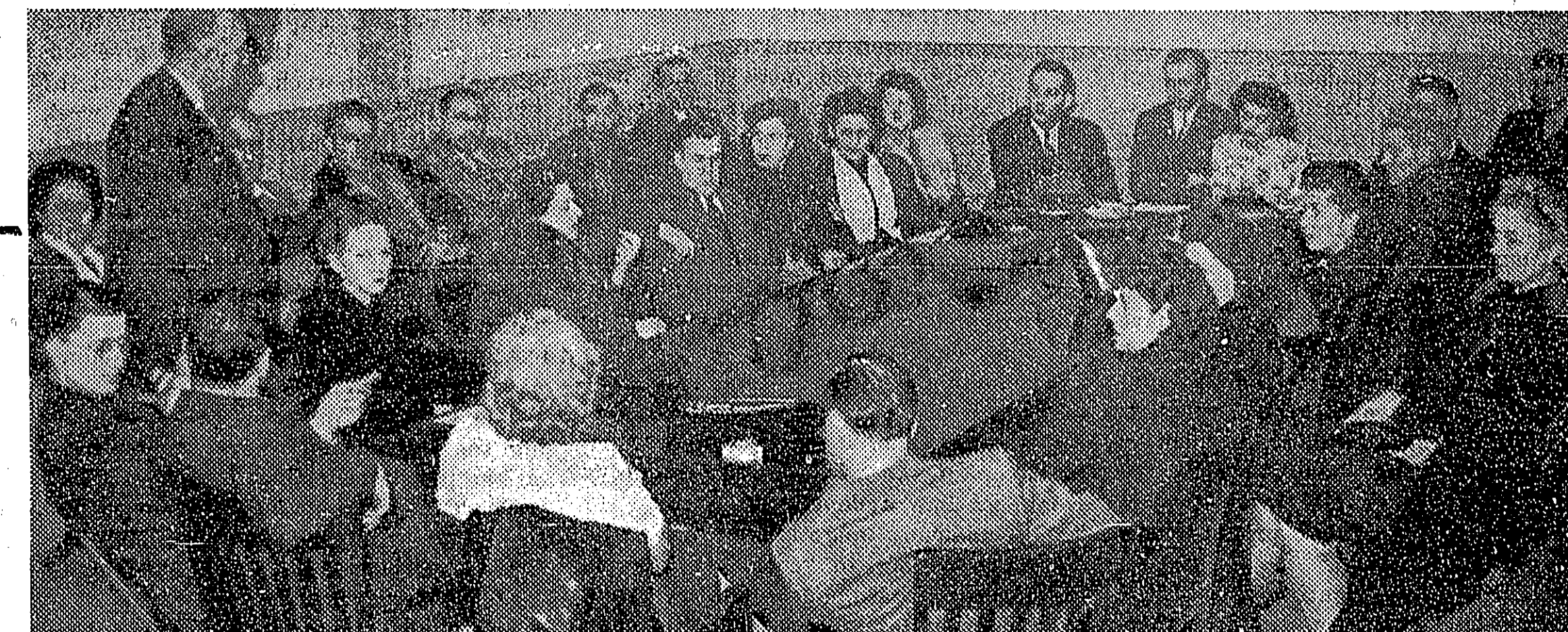
THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA—LOCAL 301 CIO

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## Local 301 Organizing Drive Is Now In Full Swing



President Andrew Peterson speaking on the local's all-out 69 committeemen at 301 hall, Mar. 12. This section meeting organizing drive at a section meeting for Bldg. 53 and Bldg. was combined with a meeting called on the women's AER case.

## Dermody Reports On Contract Talks

The General Electric Company is expected to make definite counter-proposals to the UE's wage and other contract demands when negotiations resume next week, but "up to this time has not committed itself in any way on any concessions."

Joseph Dermody, secretary of the national GE conference board of the union, reported this to the 301 membership meeting Tuesday night. He said that the negotiations were recessed this week, after the union had presented and argued for its demands in the past three weeks. The company negotiators are consulting company committees this week.

On the union's request for eight paid holidays a year, the company negotiators "have not said much except that it would cost a little under 4 cents an hour," Dermody reported.

### General Wage Increase Necessary

On the subject of a general wage increase, Dermody noted the killing of

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## Honor Roll

These 19 committeemen have reported 100 per cent membership in the groups they represent.

George Judway, Bldg. 18; Anthony Villano, Bldg. 37; Martin Burgess, Hugh Mackey, H. Bayless, P. Della Rocco, Ralph D. Pipe and Ivan Shultes, Bldg. 52.

Also Anthony Esposito and Amos Diamante, Bldg. 53; J. Ohlidal, Ralph De Wire, Albert Schneider and John Carruthers, Bldg. 66; Stanley Bishop, Bldg. 69; Charles J. O'Malley, Bldg. 99A; Albert Keller, Bldg. 101, and E. Johnson, Bldg. 107.

## UE Wins New GE Plant

Workers at the new GE plant at San Jose, Calif., have voted 98 to four for UE in a National Labor Relations Board election. The Machinists Union (IAM) tried unsuccessfully to get on the ballot, but the NLRB found the few cards it collected were "improper and inadequate."

## Campaign To Feature Prizes for Members, Weekly Honor Roll

Backing plans of the Organizing Committee and the Executive Board, the Local 301 membership meeting Tuesday night pledged united support to the drive to enroll 1000 new UE members by Apr. 1 and to make every eligible GE worker a member of 301 by May 1.

By the middle of the week, approximately 125 application cards had been received, numerous section meetings had been held and section organizing committees set up. Records of 100 per cent membership among the workers they represent had been turned in by 19 committeemen.

The honor roll of committeemen with 100 per cent organized groups will be printed weekly in the EU News.

The membership meeting also approved awarding U. S. bonds to the members signing up the highest number of new eligibles. First prize will be a \$100 bond; second prize, a \$50 bond, and third prize, a \$25 one.

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## More World Trade Means More Jobs

Foreign trade means jobs for UE workers.

Russ Nixon, UE Washington representative, points out that before the war about 10 per cent of the products made by UE workers were exported. In some cases the percentages were much higher. For instance, 33 per cent of the UE machine tools were exported and 32 per cent of the sewing machines.

If the entire world had the same number of radios the United States has, in comparison with population, the U. S. radio industry would have to run at full employment for 28 years to fill this foreign demand.

"American workers gain as backward nations become more advanced and have a higher standard of living," Nixon said.

"Canada, which is an advanced country, bought \$2.58 worth of UE products per person. Latin America, which is backward generally, bought only 29 cents per person of UE products. In India the purchase of UE products was only one cent a person."

UE supports the continuing of the Roosevelt 50-50 foreign trade agreements. UE also supports forming an International Trade Organization under the United Nations.

"The United States would do well to import some vitally needed raw materials in return for exporting manufactured products," Nixon said.

"We are having unemployment today due to lack of copper, lead, pig iron and other materials."

## Anti-Labor Bill Beaten

A state bill which would have changed the present law giving workers two hours off with pay to vote on Election Day was defeated by vote of the Assembly. Under the new proposal, an employer would not have to pay a worker or give him the time off if the worker had three non-working hours within the hours the polls are open.

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## Republican Congressmen Close Door to Public As They Decide on Taxes to Soak Average Man

The Republican majority of the House Ways and Means Committee at Washington won't open the hearings on tax bills to the general public. And no wonder! As Russ Nixon, UE Washington representative charges, the proposed Knutson bill to slash income taxes 20 per cent across-the-board is really another way to "soak the average man".

## Dermody Reports On Contract Talks

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OPA by Big Business made a raise necessary, and pointed out that Charles E. Wilson had been "stumping the country against wage increases." He pointed out contradictions in "Works News" articles, and that Wilson did not say that the GE could have avoided the strike last year by accepting UE's proposal to pay a 15-cent raise and to wait until the national wage pattern was set.

Dermody noted that prominent economists already were showing that unless the wage-price relationship was changed in favor of the worker, the country would go into a depression.

The company negotiators have said they are willing to "consider" regular overtime on continuous operations, and certain other lesser proposals, Dermody said.

The union never could accept the company demands to weaken the maintenance of membership provision and eliminate existing piece work earning guarantees, Dermody declared.

Considerable discussion from the floor followed Dermody's report.

Dermody said that on the negotiating committee of eight, Leo Jandreau was the outstanding man in both length of service and direct contribution to the bargaining.

## Local Votes \$3,000 To Organize Farmers

The membership meeting of Local 301 voted \$3000 Tuesday night to support the work of the National Farmers Union for another year in the 31st Congressional District.

The few speakers opposing the donation based their arguments entirely on economy. Speakers in favor of the proposal pointed out the importance to union members of counteracting the National Association of Manufacturers propaganda which is spread among the farmers.

## 301 Broadcast

Local 301 will broadcast its weekly radio program at 7:15 p.m., Monday over Station WSNY.

Chairman Harold Knutson (Minnesota Republican) of the Ways and Means Committee wants the 20 per cent straight cut. If a worker's weekly take-home pay is \$40.45, that would give him 82 cents more a week,—or a total of \$41.27. But it would give \$816 a week more to a Big Business executive getting \$1,210 a week. He would jump from \$1,210 to \$2,026 net income a week.

A worker getting \$2,340 a year would have his take-home pay increased only 2 per cent by this 20 per cent across-the-board scheme. The \$275,000 a year executive would increase his take-home pay by over 67 per cent.

The CIO tax program calls for placing the tax burden where it belongs,—on the people best able to pay.

The CIO wants tax exemptions raised to \$1,250 for a single person and \$2,500 for a married couple, with \$500 credit for each dependent.

Labor also demands the removal of sales taxes on necessities. These sales taxes hit the low-income group hardest.

It means money in every GE worker's pocket if he can stop the Knutson bill and get the CIO program passed. The first step is to demand open hearings on the tax bills.

## Formal Opening Wednesday For 301 Veterans' Center

All veterans of Local 301 are invited to a celebration at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Mar. 26, at the union hall, 301 Liberty, to mark the formal opening of the UE Veterans' Center.

Representatives of Schenectady veterans' groups have been asked, Chairman Joseph Dominelli of the 301 Veterans' Committee announced. Refreshments will be served.

The Center actually has been running for several weeks, under direction of the Veterans' Committee. It is open every Tuesday and Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.

## CIO Radio Program

The next radio broadcast of the Capital District CIO Council over Station WTRY, Troy, will be at 2:20 p.m. Sunday.

The Council has signed a contract with WOKO, Albany, for five weekly broadcasts starting at 12:15 p.m. Sunday,

## CIO Letter Quotes Statement of Heck

Robert Northrop, secretary-treasurer of the Capital District CIO Council, has written Governor Dewey urging him to veto the Condon-Wadlin bill penalizing public workers for striking.

The letter quoted remarks made by Assembly Speaker Oswald D. Heck of Schenectady last week to a delegation of CIO members from Local 301, from Local 2054 of the United Steelworkers and Local 159, Transport Workers.

Heck admitted the Condon-Wadlin Bill "is superfluous" and that "existing laws are entirely adequate to handle any public emergency."

The Local 301 members present when he made the remarks were Fred Pacelli, chairman of the Legislative Committee, George Walker and Frank McDonald.

The next day Speaker Heck whipped into line all but a handful of Republicans to back the Condon-Wadlin bill and force through the entire Dewey legislative program.

A joint report made by the CIO delegation condemns the legislative record of Heck and of Senator Thomas F. Campbell, also a Schenectady Republican. The committee also commented on the "arrogant and discourteous attitude" of Campbell when speaking with the labor group.

## New York Meeting On Turbine Case

Members of a Turbine Division sub-committee were in New York City Wednesday for a meeting with GE on a national level on the proposed carbonyl tool speed-up. The sub-committee elected consists of William Stewart and Roy Lash, Bldg. 60, and Michael Whittie, Bldg. 278.

Joseph Dermody of the national UE and Leo Jandreau, business agent of Local 301, were to assist in arguing the case.

## Upgraded

Two C toolmakers have been upgraded to B and two B toolmakers to A in the toolroom in Bldg. 46 after their cases were taken up by Committeeman Joseph Krone with Ray Thimineur, assistant general foreman.

## On Civic Committee

William Mastriani was named by the Executive Board to represent Local 301 on the Town of Tomorrow Committee.

## Protesting Move to Prohibit Sound Trucks



William Mastriani, chief shop steward of Local 301, speaking as chairman of the Schenectady County American Labor Party against the proposed ordinance to forbid the use of sound trucks and loud speaker equipment in Schenectady streets. He spoke at the City Council hearing after President Andrew Peterson of Local 301 delivered the opening attack on the proposal. The matter was sent back to the Council "for further consideration," Mayor Ten Eyck announced. The picture shows part of the large 301 delegation.

## Model Makers Get Five Cent Increase

A raise of five cents an hour, effective Feb. 3, was won for the model makers in Bldg. 69 last week. James Burnison made the offer to Leo Jandreau in New York, following an earlier discussion with the toolmakers committee. The settlement accepted by the modelmakers, establishes job rates of \$1.58½ for A men and \$1.43½ for B men. Top pay rate for A men goes to \$1.63½. Burnison refused to include this group in the automatic progression feature of the toolmakers' settlement, so that future raises for the model makers will be on merit subject to grievance procedure.

## Women's Work Bill

Governor Dewey has signed the Condon bill extending to Apr. 1, 1948, the provision of the labor law letting women work until midnight in factories.

## Isolation Hospital Endorsed

The Local 301 membership has gone on record in favor of the city continuing to maintain the Isolation Hospital in its present form.

## Four Women Chosen To Argue AER Case

A four-woman committee has been elected to go to New York City on the AER case involving low-rated piece work jobs normally performed by women. The grievance has reached the national level.

Named to the committee were Mary McCartin, Sadie Iovinella, Helen Quirini and Marie Sweeney. They were chosen at the Mar. 12 meeting of women committeemen and of committeemen representing women piece workers.

## Know the Contract

The best way for a worker to protect his seniority and other rights is to know exactly what the UE-GE contract guarantees him.

Otherwise he may risk his rights through carelessness or not realize that he ought to complain to his committeeman about violations of his rights.

If you haven't a copy of the agreement, ask your committeeman for one.