

## UE Sues GE, Atomic Board

(Continued from Page 1)  
tribute copies of his letter to all its atomic workers in Schenectady. The 301 letter charged that in proposing to pass on the qualifications of UE officers, the Commission is trying to pick the officers for the membership.

"No union can accept government control of its election of officers and remain independent," the 301 letter stated.

The 301 Board pointed to the outstanding war production record of UE, and called attention to the fact that the Commission has turned the entire control of atomic projects over to GE, a company convicted of "criminal conspiracy with a Nazi firm to the great detriment of the American war effort."

**Fitzgerald Attacks Commission**  
Fitzgerald, in his letter to Lillenthal, declared:

"Your demand on behalf of GE that the leadership of this union submits themselves to the approval of corporation officials disguised as servants of government is subversive of the American principles of free and independent trade unionism. . . .

"We will fight this attempt to establish in the United States government-dominated company unionism modeled after the Nazi labor front."

Fitzgerald charged:  
"It is obvious that you and your associates have already formed a pre-judgment of our case and are proceeding according to a plan you have worked out, in collaboration with the General Electric Company . . ."

He called on Lillenthal "to rescind your previous order to the General Electric Company and restrain yourself from further unwarranted interference in our affairs at the company's behest.

**Charges Conspiracy**  
"We regard this case as so flagrant an example of government-corporation conspiracy for the unlawful violation of a contract," Fitzgerald declared, "and so serious an attempt to destroy the independence of our union that we are taking the case to the court of the United States."

Fitzgerald said that in court UE hopes to have the record of the union taken under consideration instead of "the heresy trash upon which you have based your present course of action."

He said UE would also attempt in court "to expose your conspir-

## Starting Off the Series of 301 Section Nights



Members of the section represented by Board Member James Cagnetta got together Oct. 18 at 301 hall for a combination of shop talk and entertainment. They had finished the shop talk when this picture was taken. Other sections are to have similar affairs in rotation.

## Outsiders Get Break In Upgrading Chances

The union has filed a grievance in protest against the company's giving new employees opportunities for advancement which it refuses to old employees.

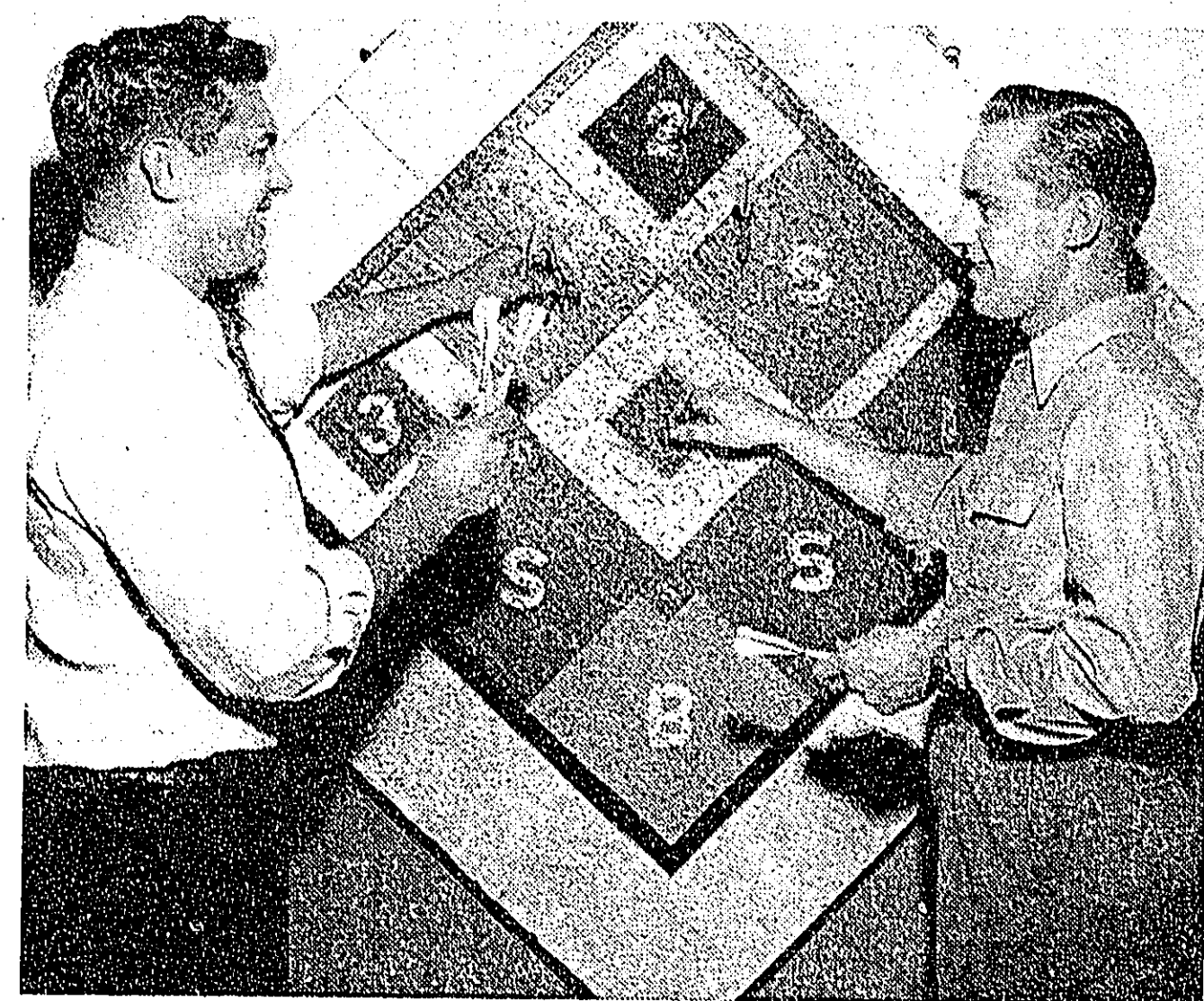
On frequent occasions, when workers have tried to get better jobs at the plant they have been told no such job was available. Men employed as common laborers have had particular difficulty in achieving upgrading.

But as the union pointed out, new employees are frequently being hired for jobs which offer the opportunity for advancement without requiring any particular skill. Such jobs are the natural openings for men now working as common laborers. The grievance filed involved typical cases—a common laborer in Building 52 and a porter in Building 66 who have asked unsuccessfully for better jobs.

The union pointed out to management that on one day's hiring list alone, Oct. 5, jobs given to outsiders included: cage dispatcher in Aeronautics and Ordnance Division; punch press operator in Punch Press; learner-welder, Turbine; helper-machine, Welded Products; two helpers-large machine tools, Turbine, and drill press sensitive, Aeronautics.

Following the program of the other section nights, the members will have a brief discussion of union and shop problems, to be followed by beer and other refreshments, cards and entertainment.

Last week there were get-togethers of the sections represented by James Cagnetta, Joseph Mangino and Albert Eastman. This week's schedule featured Leland



These dart experts are Ted Kursa, Building 52, at left and George Sokol, Bldg. 52, right, at their section social night.

## Section Night Series Now in Full Swing

The seventh section night in a series which started last week is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. tonight (Friday) when members represented by Board Member Stanley Bishop will get together at 301 hall. The section consists of Buildings 65 and 69.

Following the program of the other section nights, the members will have a brief discussion of union and shop problems, to be followed by beer and other refreshments, cards and entertainment. Last week there were get-togethers of the sections represented by James Cagnetta, Joseph Mangino and Albert Eastman. This week's schedule featured Leland

Sisto's section Monday night; John Braunneisen's, Tuesday, and Dewey Brashear's, Wednesday.

The schedule for next week is: Monday, section represented by Albert Davis; Bldgs. 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 28.

Wednesday night, section represented by Frank Kriss, Bldgs. 57, 87, 91, 95, 98A, B, C, D, 99A, B, 101, 105 and 107.

Thursday night, section represented by Henry Busse, Bldgs. 68, 72, 76, 80, 84, 205, 227, 238 and 241.

Friday night, Nov. 5, section represented by C. E. Groesbeck, Bldgs. 73 and 73A.

WEAR YOUR UE BUTTON

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

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"But You Still Have the Right to Strike"



## T-H Board Bans Mass Picketing

The recent decision of the Taft-Hartley Board outlawing even peaceful mass picketing makes two things very clear.

The Taft-Hartley Act itself is a weapon for all employers against all unions and all strikes. All the GE comic strips and "Messages from Boulware" can't hide the purpose of this law,—to smash unions.

The Taft-Hartley Board is determined to enforce this law in as harsh a way as possible. Its rulings go even further than employers dare ask.

The anti-picketing decision was handed down in the case of the strike of Local 6, International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO, against Sunset Line and Twine Company of California. About 400 workers,

mostly women, went on strike in October 1947 for higher wages.

Through the California Association of Employers, the company filed a complaint with the Taft-Hartley Board charging the union with unfair labor practices.

In making its decision, the Board took the word of scabs over the testimony of strikers in every dispute about fact. For most of its information it had only testimony from scabs.

The Board declared the union guilty of "intimidation" and ordered it to "cease and desist" mass picketing activities. It said that standing in the way of an automobile trying to enter the plant gate is unlawful, even if the automobile is not stopped from going through.

Though the company filed its complaint only against the local, the Board went out of its way to involve the international union too.

ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS

## Lillenthal Grants Company's Request

Carrying out his recent threat against UE, Chairman David E. Lillenthal, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, this week ordered the General Electric Company "to withdraw and withhold" recognition from the union as bargaining agent for atomic workers at the Peek St. plant.

He issued the order Wednesday, without notifying UE or Local 301. Union officers learned of the action through the newspapers. About 400 workers are in the union's jurisdiction at Peek St.

**Taft-Hartley Law Again**

Lillenthal announced the action was taken because UE officers had not submitted to "loyalty investigations" or filed Taft-Hartley affidavits. His order refers to GE employees on atomic work at installations owned by or leased by the Commission in the Schenectady area.

The Federal Court suit filed last week by UE, President Albert J. Fitzgerald, Leo Jandreau and others against GE and the Commission anticipated such an order by Lillenthal.

The union asked the court to revoke the Commission's order of Sept. 28, barring UE as bargaining agent at the un-built Knolls II plant, and also to restrain the Commission from interfering with the GE-UE contract by any other order. (Continued on Page 2)

## Beaten by Labor Vote



CONGRESSMAN KERSTEN

## United Labor Vote Defeats Rep. Kersten

Four Congressmen who have made the UE their principal target were swept out of office in Tuesday's elections, by united labor drives spear-headed by UE. They were among a large number of Taft-Hartley supporters repudiated at the polls.

Representative Charles Kersten, Republican, of Wisconsin, who headed the Hartley sub-committee which came to Schenectady to "investigate" Local 301, was defeated by Andrew J. Biemiller, Democrat. UE was the key factor in the united labor campaign for Biemiller, who polled approximately 86,000 votes to Kersten's 73,000.

**McDowell Beaten**  
In the Pittsburgh, Pa., district, Congressman John McDowell, Republican, of the Un-American Committee was beaten by Harry J. Davenport, Democrat. The vote was 58,595 for Davenport and 48,625 for McDowell according to returns received when EU News went to press. McDowell made an attack on the UE leadership the main issue of his campaign. All sections of the labor movement joined the UE drive against him.

**Indiana Victories**  
The two Indiana Congressmen who featured in the Hartley Committee's attempt to terrorize UE members at Evansville both were repudiated by the voters. Representative Edward Mitchell, Republican, was defeated by 12,000 votes by Winfield Denton, Democrat, who ran with the vigorous backing of UE and other unions. Representative Gerald W. Landis, his un-busting, fellow Republican was beaten by James Noland, Democrat.

Noland, who was backed by UE and other unions, stated during his campaign that the Mitchell-Landis "doings" were the most un-American activities he had heard of. The sheriff and several other Evansville office holders who had joined in the attack against UE went down to defeat.

Congressman Hartley did not run (Continued on Page 2)



## Jandreau Cites Record of Clark

Few Americans can possibly have done as much as Attorney General Tom Clark "to subvert the American constitution and the American tradition", Business Agent Leo Jandreau charged last week.

Jandreau issued the statement on Clark after the attorney general, in newspaper interviews in Schenectady Oct. 27, attacked the UE leadership. Clark called the Federal Court action filed by the UE against the General Electric Company and the Atomic Energy Commission "the usual tactics of subversive groups."

### Statement by Jandreau

"What will be called subversive next?" Jandreau asked.

"We find a government official, Mr. Lillenthal, ordering the General Electric Company to violate its contract with UE, to the great detriment of our members, particularly those on atomic work.

"We believe this action is flagrantly illegal, in violation of the Constitution, and that it is carried out as a conspiracy with GE.

"So we take the case to the courts. We always thought that was the accepted practice, and that courts are there to enforce the sanctity of contracts, and stop violations of the law.

"Now Attorney-General Tom Clark who is supposed to be the chief enforcer of the law, brands our court action a subversive tactic.

"This statement by Mr. Clark is typical of the entire administration of his office.

### Clark's Record

"The truth is that few Americans can possibly have done as much as Mr. Clark has done to subvert the American constitution and the American tradition.

"Mr. Clark says he is against Taft-Hartley, but has gone beyond Taft-Hartley in using his office to break strikes. He condemns the Thomas un-American Activities

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Committee but uses its methods in blacklisting organizations without hearing or evidence, on the basis of hearsay which no court would accept. He has prosecuted individuals for their thoughts alone, but has taken no action against the openly un-American acts of the Ku Klux Klan.

### Contrary to American Tradition

"He has sent men and women to jail for refusing to give out membership lists of voluntary organizations. For the American tradition that a man is innocent until proven guilty of a criminal act, Tom Clark has substituted conviction by government decree, by Tom Clark decree.

"We do not believe that the American people are yet ready to accept Mr. Clark or any other government official as dictator of what they shall think or do.

"This union will resist dictation by the Clarks, Hartleys, Kerstens, and Lillenthals by all lawful means at its command."

### Billion-Dollar Club

In 1947 there were 48 corporations in what the magazine Business Week calls the "Billion-Dollar Club." They had assets of over a billion dollars each and their total assets amounted to 114 billion dollars.

Bell Telephone is the largest with assets of nine billion dollars. The most rapid growth of assets since 1939 was shown by General Electric Company, which expanded by 137 per cent. General Motors increased its assets 87 per cent.

### GE Medical Theory

## It's More Dangerous To Sit Than to Fall

A General Electric Company doctor gave some highly unusual medical testimony at a Workmen's Compensation hearing in Schenectady last week. The case involved a worker who was injured about two months ago when he fell backwards while tightening a bolt on a milling machine raised on a platform. He cut his left thumb on the machine, and in falling about four feet suffered an abdominal strain. His own physician reported that the fall caused a hernia.

The GE doctor, however, testified that the hernia could not have been caused by the accident. He said the worker must have developed the hernia when he was sitting in the Works Hospital a few days later having his thumb rebandaged. To support this theory, the GE doctor said the worker had complained of feeling abdominal pain while he was sitting there. The pain must have been an intestinal spasm, according to the GE physician, and therefore it was the spasm, not the recent fall, that caused the hernia.

Because GE is fighting against paying any compensation for the hernia, the worker must lose still more time from his work in order to go to Oneonta for the next hearing in the case. Marshall Perlin, Local 301 attorney, is handling the claim for him.

### Lillenthal Grants Company's Request

(Continued from Page 1)

der limiting the union's representation rights.

In the complaint filed in court, the union charged that Lillenthal and GE "engaged in an unlawful plan or conspiracy" to deprive UE members of their rights under the constitution of UE and the constitution of the United States. The aim of the conspiracy, the complaint declared, was "to impose on the membership of UE the dictates of the defendant government officials and the General Electric Company as to who should constitute the officers and representatives of UE" and to "substitute a government controlled union for a union controlled by its membership."

The original Lillenthal order applied only to the unbuilt Knolls II laboratory. Then GE Vice-President L. R. Boulware wrote Lillenthal a letter complaining that the order was not "adequate". The action on Peek St. followed.

### United Labor Vote Defeats Kersten

(Continued from Page 1)

for reelection, but the Republican candidate who ran from his district in New Jersey, with his blessing, was defeated by Peter Rodino, Democrat, backed by all labor.

In Minnesota, Senator Joseph Ball, who said the Taft-Hartley law should be still tougher, was beaten by Mayor Hubert Humphrey, Democrat, of Minneapolis.

## IAM Ads Don't Tell Some Important Facts

The International Association of Machinists has been running advertisements in Schenectady newspapers inviting UE members at the Peek St. plant to switch to IAM.

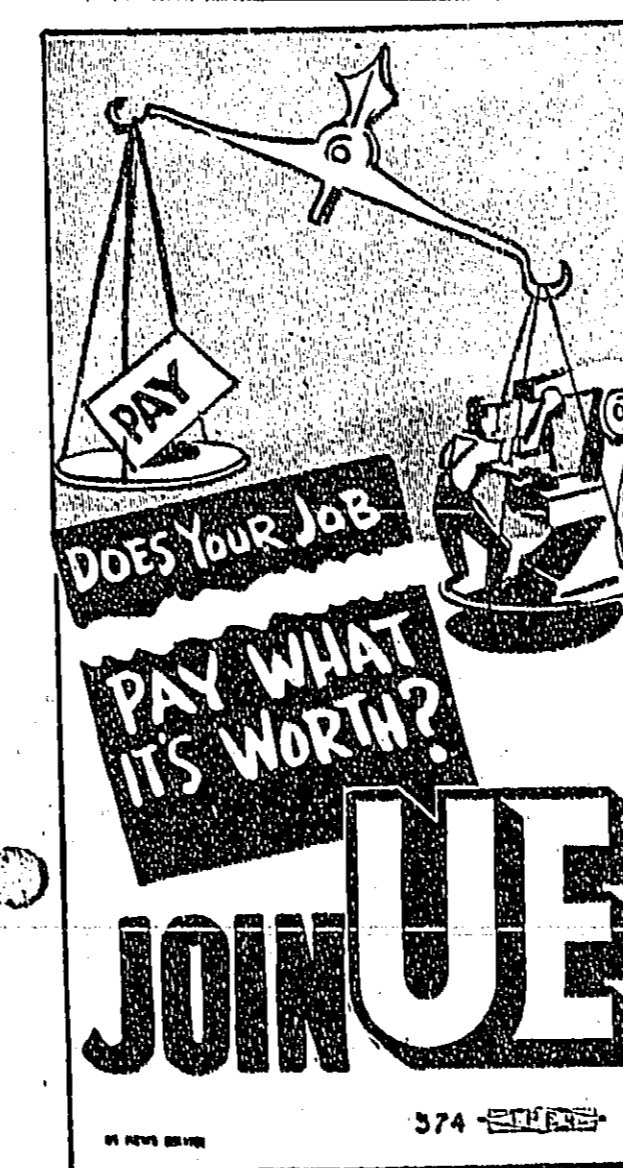
The sales talk centers on the fact that IAM has filed Taft-Hartley affidavits and therefore expects to be popular with the Atomic Energy Commission. IAM started its raiding campaign before Chairman David E. Lillenthal of the Commission ordered GE this week not to recognize UE as bargaining agent for Peek St. atomic workers.

Although the IAM is using the Taft-Hartley law to try to raid UE, it has been complaining at being the victim of a similar raid by the Teamsters in Seattle.

Provisions in the IAM contract with Remington Rand at Elmira give an idea of just what kind of "security" IAM can offer Schenectady workers.

The contract states: "The company retains the right to discipline and discharge any employee for cause." There is no explanation of what "for cause" means. But there is another provision of the contract that no Board of Arbitration shall require the reinstatement of any person, or the payment of back pay to any person, if the individual "was suspended or discharged for cause." In other words, the IAM has signed away the right to fight the firing or suspending of any worker.

The agreement with Remington Rand contains a complicated incentive system which opens the way to speed-up and enables the company to cut rates.



## Installing New Shop Stewards at 301 Meeting



George Walker, extreme left, Local 301 guide, administers the oath of office to a quartet of new shop stewards at the Oct. 19 membership meeting: left to right: James Muir, Building 273; Ernest Criscuolo, Bldg. 60; Frank Ruhl, Bldg. 46 and Placido Stauert, Bldg. 81.

### City Council Ignores 301's Tax Petitions

On instruction of the Executive Board Marshall Perlin, 301 attorney, presented to the City Council meeting Oct. 25 petitions signed by members of the union opposing any sales tax, payroll tax or increased tax on homes. The petitions, circulated in the shops by the Executive Board, also asked that any additional money needed be raised by a tax on commercial businesses with gross receipts of over \$100,000 a year.

The next night the Council voted to levy three special taxes in 1949: a 3 per cent tax on all consumers' utility bills, a 5 per cent tax on hotel rooms and a tax on juke boxes and other coin-operated amusement devices. The tax on water, telephone, gas and electric bills is the type tax that 301 opposes, as an unjust burden on the people least able to pay it.

The City Council also decided to increase the real estate tax rate about \$1.60 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. This increase also is an unfair burden on small home owners.

### Free Symphony Concert

A symphony concert conducted by Edward Rice will be presented by the Cooperative Evening Assemblies, at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10, at the Union College Memorial Chapel, by courtesy of Local 85, American Federation of Musicians. Admission is free. UE Local 301 is one of the sponsors of the Cooperative Evening Assemblies.

### Paging 301 Actors, Musicians, Dancers

Mrs. Dorothy Perlin, wife of the 301 attorney, Marshall Perlin, is again looking for union members interested in singing, dancing, acting or playing musical instruments. She has charge of organizing a 301 entertainment and dramatic group to present skits at union meetings and affairs. People who took part in the Field Day skit have signed up, but additional talent is needed.

Anyone interested in taking part in the skits should telephone Mrs. Perlin at her home, 2-0885 or leave word at the union office. She will also be glad to help plan entertainment for section nights.

### No Discrimination Clause

The number of UE contracts containing a clause protecting workers against discrimination on account of sex, race, color or creed totals 761, covering 210,000 workers.

The greatest bar to extending this contract provision throughout the union contracts, according to the report of the UE general officers, is the resistance of the major chain companies, General Electric Westinghouse and General Motors.

### Housing Even Higher

The cost of buying or building a small house has risen 12 to 15 per cent over the high price that prevailed a year ago, a recent survey by the New York Times shows.

### Board Votes to Protest Against Denver Arrests

Clarence Carr, president of Local 202 of Gloversville, International Fur and Leather Workers Union, CIO, appeared before the Local 301 Executive Board meeting Oct. 25 as a representative of the Civil Rights Congress to ask that the Board protest against the violation of civil liberties in the jailing of Communist Party officials at Denver.

In accordance with instructions voted unanimously by the Board, President Peterson sent letters of protest to President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark "against the action of the Department of Justice in causing the arrest of officials of a political party in Denver, Colorado, solely because of their refusal to reveal membership lists of their organization, without any charge of violation of the law against such members."

"The membership list of any lawful, voluntary organization, political or otherwise, is a private matter," the letters stated, "and must be protected, as unions know from bitter experience in their organizing days. The processes of American justice should not be misused to set up a black list. Constitutional rights must be preserved for all, regardless of differences in political views, or these rights will be in danger for all of us."

GET YOUR COPY  
OF THE CONTRACT