

COMING EVENTS AT UNION HEADQUARTERS

**TOOL ROOM
NIGHT**
Wed., Oct. 4, 1939

8:00 O'Clock

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
REFRESHMENTS

**REFRIGERATOR
NIGHT**
Fri., Oct. 20, 1939

8:00 O'Clock

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
REFRESHMENTS

**SECTION C
NIGHT**
Sat., Sept. 30, 1939

8:00 O'Clock

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
REFRESHMENTS

**TURBINE
NIGHT**
Fri., Oct. 13, 1939

8:00 O'Clock

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
REFRESHMENTS

A GOOD FORM OF WORK INSURANCE IS F

E. WORKERS TO BUY G. E. PRODUCTS

ORIGINAL TORN

ELECTRICAL UNION ...NEWS

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



Vol. 1

Schenectady, N. Y., October, 1939

No. 2

THE DISTRICT COUNCIL

The District Council is one of the important parts of the Union machinery.

It is extremely important to our Local because of the General Electric's wage policy: "It is the policy of the company to pay wage rates equal to or higher than wage rates paid in community industries for comparable work requiring the same skill and efficiency."

The company makes surveys frequently in the community. The company extends west to Rochester, South to Poughkeepsie, (excludes Metropolitan district), east within the state boundaries.

The most recent survey covered approximately 47 companies and considered 24 occupations. The company's statement as a result of comparing our rates with those paid by other companies in the community was to the effect that rates here are well within the company's policy.

District No. 3 of the U.E.R. & M.W. of A., covers all of New York State excepting the Metropolitan district. Each local in the district elects delegates to a council that meets each month. The council's job is to promote organization in the district as well as to assist the locals affiliated to it.

Our district at the present time, has locals in Rochester, Buffalo, Jamestown and Rome. The council at its meeting in Rome last Saturday planned a program of organization in Syracuse and Utica.

The international organizer assigned to our district in making his report to the council stated that the employees in several plants in Syracuse where he had made contact were anxious to have an organization. He stated rates paid were very low and working conditions in the unorganized plants were intolerable. His report also showed that most of these factories had independent organizations bargaining agencies.

The District Council has not had very much opportunity to show its worth because it has only been in existence a comparable short time and during this time lack of work made organization quite difficult. However, with the general pick-up of business throughout the country our district expects to make the most of it.

With union wage standards in effect throughout the community, the G. E. workers will have more opportunity to increase their wages.

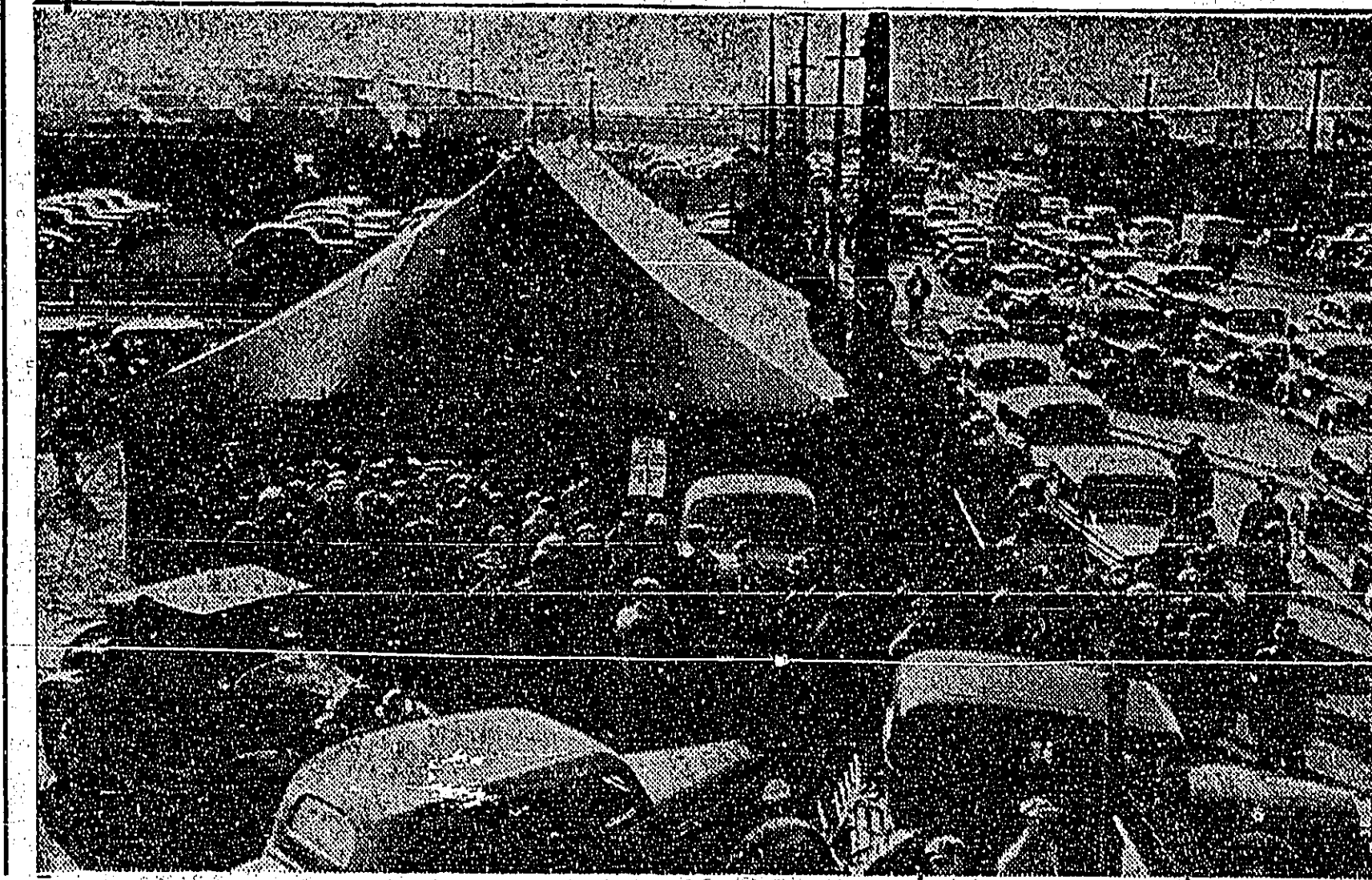
It's Done Even in the Best of Families

By Federated Press

NEW YORK—(FP)—For underpaying his truck drivers and overcharging the government on seven jobs Rodney Smith, contractor and member of a distinguished American family, has been sentenced to one year in prison.

Instead of paying the drivers \$8 to \$7.50 a day as provided in the government contract Smith paid them \$3 a day and made them register their trucks in their names to evade social security taxes and workmen's compensation. The contractor is a collateral relative of the late Salmon Chase, chief justice of the U. S.

Chrysler Election Victory for CIO Autoworkers



As autoworkers from the Plymouth division of Chrysler Corp. in Detroit entered the NLRB election tent to cast votes which gave a 9 to 1 victor to the United Automobile Workers (CIO).

Here And There In Building 12

The employees of Building No. 12 take this opportunity to congratulate the Union Committee who made it possible for us to have a Union News organ, exclusively for the Schenectady employees of the G.E. Company. In the first issue there appeared a list of Union Shop Representatives, with the omission, (very unintentional, we are assured) which we wish to rectify, Miss Alice Askew, our hard working fair-minded shop representative was left out of the list. (The newspaper committee has expressed regret over this fact, and extend Miss Askew their apology.)

Most of the foremen in Bldg No. 12 are very fair on the question of equalization of work and etc., but we are still suffering from an overdose of partially on the part of a few foremen towards their favorites, causing some dissatisfaction in the group. We urge these foremen to reconsider.

The Fall and Winter seasons are again with us, and the Union Committee on Refrigerators meetings, is busy planning Union Nights for the coming months.

The first of these social and business get-togethers will take place Friday, October 20th, at the spacious Union Headquarters. From the reports of the advance sale of tickets, this will be the best affair up - to - date, and some of our past socials have been huge successes.

Better see your Committeeman for tickets. Girls Free—Gents 25c. After a short business meeting, the sky is the limit!

Shift Workers Meeting

A meeting was held at Union headquarters Saturday, October 14th, by shift workers in Bldg No. 12, to discuss the problems of shift workers.

Questions were discussed affecting shift workers. It was decided to place these questions on the agenda of the next meeting and shift workers took part in the discussion. It was also decided to contact all shift workers in the various local unions to the night shift to be well attended. The next meeting is planned for the 21st of this month and that the night shift workers attend.

CHRYSLER ELECTION Wins Over 80% of Total Vote Seek New Pact

DETROIT, SEPT. 30 — FIFTY THOUSAND EMPLOYEES OF THE CHRYSLER MOTORS CO., VOTING IN THE LARGEST NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD ELECTION EVER HELD, SHOWED A SWEEPING 81% PREFERENCE FOR THE UNITED AUTOMOBILE WORKERS. FINAL RETURNS FROM THE 13 ELECTIONS SHOWED TODAY.

The voting record:

UAW-CIO	40,564
AFL	4,744
Neither	4,426

In trouncing Homer Martin's AFL union by this whopping 9-1 margin, the CIO auto workers fully justified their claims of leadership in the industry and gave another blow to the AFL's already badly-dented boasts.

All major Chrysler plants went CIO by tremendous majorities. In four Detroit elections, the UAW-CIO rolled up 6,087 votes, while the AFL was able to muster only 224. At the main Dodge plant, the CIO won by an 18-1 margin, with 18,000 votes involved; and at the Los Angeles plant, the AFL could claim only 5 votes out of 600.

The two elections lost the CIO union were in Kokomo, where a majority voted for no union, and at Evansville, Ind., where the AFL outfit won a 2-vote majority.

Pres. R. I. Thomas, pleased that the voting had borne out his predictions, said immediate steps would be taken to negotiate "a new and satisfactory" contact with the Chrysler Corp.

Renew Pact For 8,000 Radio Workers

By Federated Press
CAMDEN, N. J.—(FP)—Inserting a war seniority clause and a provision for time-and-a-half for overtime on Saturdays, the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers (CIO) has renewed its contract with the Radio Corp. of America, covering 8,000 workers. The agreement provides a 35c hourly minimum and a 40-hour week.

VACUUM TUBE DEPARTMENT

Bob Oobinson and Vic Granger after a hard working summer remodeling their camps, now have the task of taking their boats out of the lake, and getting ready for the Hunting Season.

Art Regeles now has three good hound dogs, and is all set for the opening date, but we wonder why he says he can only have two hound dogs from now on. Whose orders???

Happy Hicks, our dues collector, is rather good card player. No doubt, our good-natured Tool-Crib man, John Annett, gives him some pointers on the trips to and from work.

Due to the growing membership in building No. 37, Wilson Snyder was elected to the Committeeman for all errand help in the Vacuum Tube. Good Luck, Wilson!
—Building No. 37, News Committee.

...ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS...

Published by: UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA, LOCAL 301 301 Liberty St., Schenectady, N. Y.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y. OCTOBER, 1939

EDITING BOARD

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George Cardinal Mundelein A GREAT MAN

(LYNN NEWS) The loss to America and humanity in the passing of George Cardinal Mundelein, a man whom the world came to know as one of its great, is accentuated in this day of racial and national strife. His whole life was devoted to the uplifting of the unfortunate, and by his deeds as well as by his words he was known to friends of labor and all liberal interests as the human essence of progressive tolerance.

BROPHY NAILS LIES AT DIES HEARINGS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—This week's barrage of lies, slanders and distortions emanating from the un-American Dies Committee drew a sharp rebuke from John Brophy, national director, CIO, in answer to wild charges by Ben Gitlow, a former Communist. "Recently Ben Gitlow appeared before your Committee making certain statements concerning me in relation to the Communist Party," Brophy wrote.

"I deny completely and emphatically that I ever received on penny directly or indirectly, either from the Communists or the Communist Party for my 1928 campaign for the Presidency of the United Mine Workers of America. I enter this denial whether that statement was made by Gitlow or anyone else, now or at any other time.

LOCAL 301 — LADIES AUXILIARY

FALL SEASON OPENS The evening of October 11 marked the date on which many card players won useful prizes at the C.I.O. hall. Among those present were: Mrs. Leo Jandreau, Mr. and Mrs. Sal Vol-daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Matern and friends, Mrs. Harry Aussicker, Mr. and Mrs. George Crandall and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Leland Bel-linger, son and friends, Mrs. Wm. Turnbull and friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walt Plummer and Mrs. Everett Taylor (president of the International Ladies Auxiliary) and daughter, and many others.

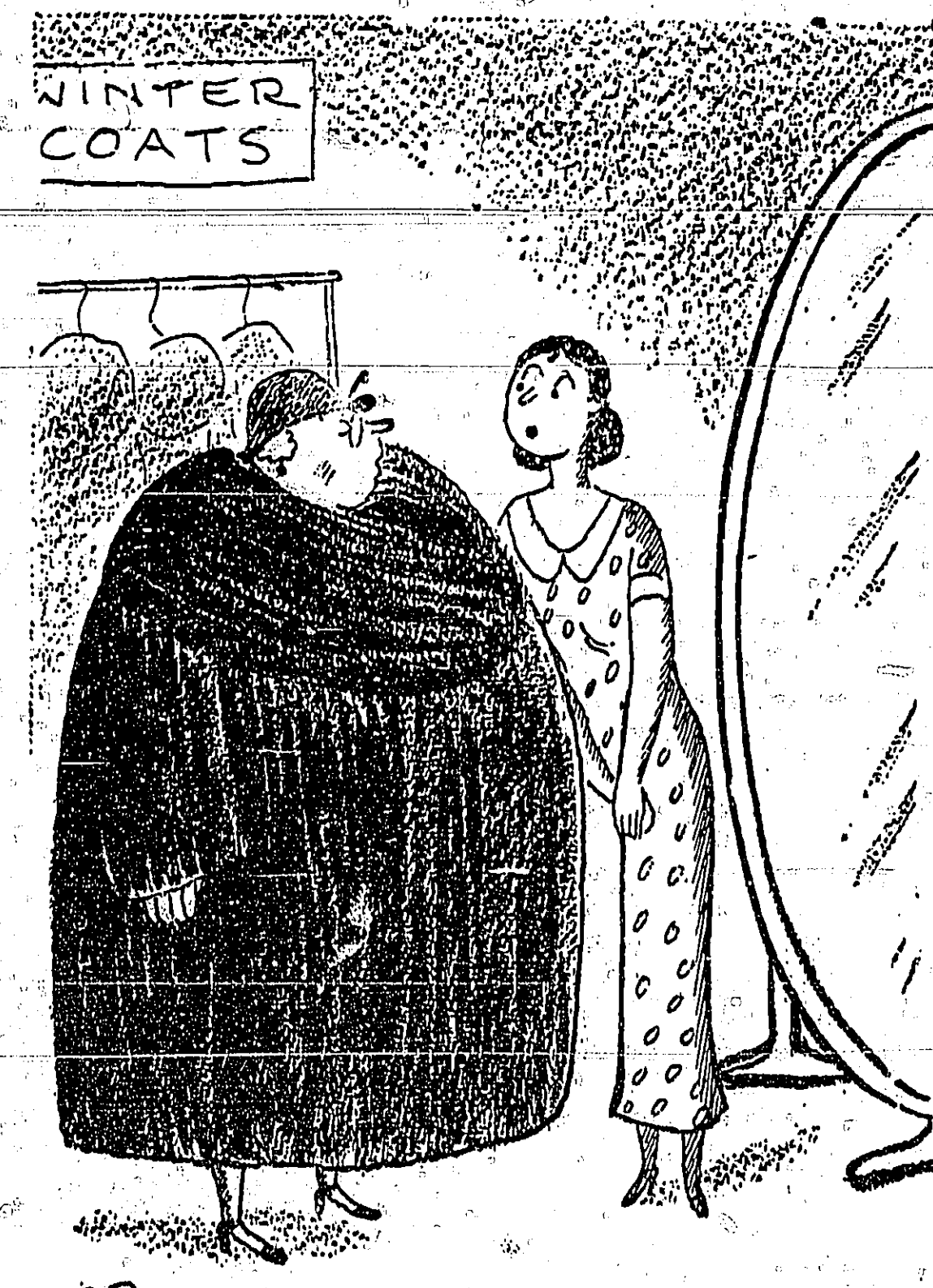
Mrs. Corsett, Mrs. Aldi, and Mrs. Harris acted as hostesses for the evening. You should have been there and tasted some of the prize winning cakes donated by the members of the Ladies Auxiliary of which there was a plentiful supply.

Be sure to watch for our next card party, so you, too, can enjoy an evening of fun and relaxation.

We were very glad to see Mrs. Turnbull back in our group after a long absence due to ill health. By the way, we have a new applicant for the Ladies Auxiliary, (He) boasts a new hat with horse feather in it. A keen contest of Chinese Checkers was played by Miss Marlorie Vottis vs. Master Louis Corsett with the fair lady winning the laurels. We are glad that D. V. caught her bus and so did not miss this eventful evening.

NOTICE SPECIAL MEETING OCTOBER 18 Wednesday - 8 o'clock Special Order of Business

The Upper Crust



THE MAN WHO COULDN'T FIGURE UNION FELLOWSHIP

One of the Officers of our Local, on his way home on a bus, ran into a G. E. employee who wanted to speak to one of the "big shots" in the Union. This particular officer doesn't happen to be so very big, but it didn't seem to make much difference with this employee Jack. Let's call this employee Jack. Jack started by informing the officer that the Union was lousy and couldn't do the workers any good. His case was an example. He had been transferred from Building No. 24, Refrigerator Rep't. Repair Gang to Building No. 11 some months ago. In Bldg. No. 24 he was rated at 79c per hour for a certain type of work. In Bldg. No. 11, he had averaged about 85c per hour — This was O.K. Some six weeks ago he had been transferred back to Building No. 24 on the same job for 67c per hour. The only difference was that the job is now being called poster work. What was the Union doing about it? The officer asked him if he had taken the question up with the Union or his Shop Committeeman? Yes, he had, but the Shop Committeeman had asked to see his Union Dues Book. What a nerve on the part of the Committeeman? Jack hadn't paid dues for over a year, and claimed that he couldn't afford to pay dues; and now the Union demanded a \$5.00 reinstatement or initiation fee. Gee, he wasn't going to pay \$5.00 to no Union!

The Officer asked him how many hours he worked a week. Forty hours was the answer. Forty hours at 12c per hour, amounted to \$4.80. The Officer pointed out to him that for the past 6 weeks, he had lost \$28.80 in order not to pay \$5.00 reinstatement fee and \$10.00 a month thereafter. In a year it would cost him \$249.60 less in wages. Still Jack insisted that \$5.00 was too much and couldn't understand why the Union didn't take his case up anyway. The Officer further explained that grievances involve cost which the Union pays, and that good dues paying members wouldn't allow the officers to squander their dues money settling grievances of non-dues pay-

HUMANE ELEMENT AND TIME STUDY

If all the necessary time to complete a given operation is recorded honestly and if the time allowance (personnel, machine maintenance, etc.) are adequate and if the operator is given the proper effort rating, then there should not be any question as to whether a price fitted a job.

For example: A drill press operator has a new job given him without a price and it must be timed. The rate man is called to set a price. The job or measuring the necessary time to drill cannot easily be disputed because it is based on tangible facts. However, this is not all that is needed to arrive at a price.

Allowances are made for personnel, machine maintenance, etc. These allowances may cover, in some instances, the accumulation of materials and tools necessary. This allowance may be a standard allowance used to cover a particular group. There is a possibility, because of constant changing of department procedure, whereby these allowances may become inadequate. Here is where opinions of the foreman or rate man carry considerable weight in arriving at a proper price.

While the job is being timed, the piece rate man is expected to observe the effort that is being applied and rate the man accordingly. Here is a very important phase of setting the proper price. 100 per cent effort rating is equal to the A.E.R. rate, (anticipated earning rate). If the operator should apply himself at 110 per cent effort he should receive a price that would allow him to earn 10 per cent over the anticipated earned rate. This part of the time study is entirely governed by humane element.

A question arises, What is normal? The operator being timed might not have given his usual performance. There is a natural tendency to base usual performance as a normal of 100 per cent rating. Usual performance can vary 10 to 15 per cent from normal.

We say an operator should apply himself in his regular way during a time study and his wage record should carry a great deal of weight when trying to decide effort rating. There are many obstacles in the minds of those responsible for cost that tend to make biased decisions. The main one being general pressure to get the cost as low as possible. Also the operator might have been exceeding the anticipated earned rate; another is trying to meet an estimated price that a foreman may have given.

Inadequate prices have caused the present attitude of dissatisfaction among the employees towards the time study. Coupled with inadequate prices, is the policy sometimes of having a new price ride and the foreman keeps strict observation of the operator obviously displaying mistrust, for which he gets the same in return from the operator. With attitudes prevailing as such, the opportunity for mutual agreement is quite remote.

Other methods used to give temporary relief to a question of low price is the extra work voucher. Extra work vouchers are only to be used for a reason as described by the name itself. When unforeseen difficulties arise that can be and will be eliminated, then this temporary condition requiring additional time may be required to extra work.

When it is said, "We know the price is right," let's remember that the mechanics of price setting is not done as yet by a machine that might be faultless, unbiased and infallible. Humane element still controls the result of this work.

To All Refrigerator Employees! REFRIGERATOR NIGHT Friday, October 20th at 7:30 P. M.

Business and Social Make your business to come to this affair. Know your Union — Have a good time — Men 25c Ladies Free See Your Committeeman for Tickets —Refrigerator Activities

Turbine Department

The Turbine Department of Bldg. No. 60 turned out en-mass to Union headquarters, Friday, October 13th, and packed C.I.O. Headquarters. The business meeting was ably conducted by "Red Hot" Matern, and addressed by Business Agent and Financial Secretary who heartily congratulated Bldg. No. 60 on their solid union organization and on the splendid leadership of the section.

The rise in the cost of living brought out much discussion and a motion was unanimously adopted instructing the Executive Board to take up the question of adequate wages to meet the higher cost of living. Brother Jim Beach learned all about the new device now being used to tap beer kegs, and anyone seeking instructions will please contact Jim.

All present danced to the tune of the "Beer Barrel Polka," excepting Walsh who made his contribution towards the entertainment by slipping a few reels of the "Irish Washer woman."

Both social and business were such a huge success that on November 10, another affair has been scheduled for the department.

CELEBRATION

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—(FP) A mortgage-burning celebration was held here to mark 14 years of municipal ownership of the gas and electric system, resulting in lower rates, reduced taxes and improved service. The occasion was the payment of the last \$181,000 out of the \$2,200,000 debt incurred when the city took over the utility in 1925.

In the 14-year period electric rates have been reduced from 9.5c to 5c a kilowatt hour and there have also been sharp cuts in gas rates, saving consumers a total of \$5,300,000. At the same time production capacity has been increased from 7,800 to 15,000 kilowatts and the value of the system has risen from \$2,478,000 to \$4,432,000.

Besides paying off the entire debt, the municipally-owned utility has paid \$487,500 to the city general fund, made capital additions of \$1,398,200, charged off \$100,000 for obsolete material and financed construction of its own building one of the finest in the city. After all these expenses there still remains a working capital of \$111,800.

Under the resolution, the convention would order "all state federations of labor, city central bodies and directly affiliated local unions to unseat from membership and/or refuse to admit into membership and/or to refuse to retain in membership any person known to be a member of the

LADIES' AUXILIARY

In Schenectady there is a big drive on for Membership in Local No. 301. There is also a drive on for membership in our Auxiliary. We want an Auxiliary second to none. Have you talked to your wife, mother or sister about joining? We want to interest them in your Union — It is putting money in their pockets, therefore, they are entitled to know what has been accomplished. Do they know that you have Committeemen to take up your grievances? A Business Agent always on hand to see that you do not have to take a cut in wages, and who helps to better your working conditions? Besides the other 101 questions that come up in the course of a year. Do you know that the women of Schenectady can govern their own buying to a great extent if they all work together?

Auxiliary Means Help and that is what we want. Will you help us by joining this year? The time and dates of our meetings will be listed in the Main Hall at Union Headquarters and also in this paper. Show your interest by attending our next Meeting! —EVA TAYLOR, President of Local No. 301 Auxiliary and International President.

AFL Convention Bars ITU Delegates

The Intl. Typographical Union was denied seats at the AFL convention on the fourth day, when a recommendation of the credentials committee was approved. The action had been expected.

The I T U, which has functioned under its present name since 1869, locked horns with AFL officials over payment of the 1c special assessment for an anti-CIO war chest. A month prior to the AFL convention the union's check for regular per capita payments was returned, foreshadowing the expulsion of the 80,000 printers.

Pres. Claude M. Baker of the ITU was given the floor by AFL Pres. William Green, who told the convention that Baker was not responsible for the stand taken by his union. Baker, who was warmly applauded, confirmed the exonerated.

This is one of the saddest days in the history of the AFL and for members of the ITU," he said. "I strove against the discord of the propaganda which led to this situation. I was unsuccessful." A move toward complete isolation from any political movement involving the CIO was launched at the convention by the California State Federation of Labor. A resolution submitted by the Californians would prohibit any AFL members from belonging to Labor's Non-Partisan League, which now includes a large number of AFL officers as well as rank-and-files.

Under the resolution, the convention would order "all state federations of labor, city central bodies and directly affiliated local unions to unseat from membership and/or refuse to admit into membership and/or to refuse to retain in membership any person known to be a member of the

FOOD PRICE RISES WITHOUT BASIS, RESEARCH FINDS

WASHINGTON, (FP) — Indications that profiteers seized upon the outbreak of war in Europe to boost prices arbitrarily and blamed the increased hoarding housewives and greedy farmers are contained in a survey conducted by Farm Research, Inc., an independent organization.

"An investigation of recent increases in food prices shows," the organization says, "that farmers are not responsible for any 'profiteering' that has been occurring, that farm prices are still low, and that speculation and price-gouging have been the cause of certain exorbitant price rises."

"Despite the widespread assertion that hoarding by housewives has been causing artificial price advances, his explanation has been found completely without foundation," the survey continues. "Housewives did not hoard copper, jute, latex, cotton, chemicals, hides and aluminum. Yet the prices of these products also went up."

"Government figures indicate that prices paid to farmers have not gone up in keeping with retail prices or with the 15 to 35 per cent advances in the exchanges."

Further indications that the price increases have been entirely due to manipulation are seen in the differences in price rises in various states. Flour prices showed a 56 per cent increase in Boston, 15 per cent increase in Savannah but a 6 per cent drop in Houston. Lard prices increased 65 per cent in Denver, 45 per cent in Boston and 21 per cent in New York. Sugar prices rose 31 per cent in Detroit but only 4 per cent in Denver. Potato prices went up 27 per cent in Scranton, 25 per cent in Buffalo, 22 per cent in Houston but dropped 5 per cent in Boston and 2 per cent in Savannah. Navy beans cost 61 per cent more in Cleveland, 28 per cent more in Savannah but only 2 per cent more in Boston and 3 per cent in Detroit.

This "spotty character" of the increases, it is said, reveals the extent to which price-gouging took place, limited only by what it was thought the traffic would bear. "These major increases in retail prices usually have little or no relationship to wholesale prices," the survey asserts. "The wholesale price of grains and edible meats actually decreased for the country as a whole during the week of September 9 to 16, falling 2.3 per cent and 2 per cent respectively."

so-called Labor's Non-Partisan League." The resolution was patterned on one adopted at the recent convention of the California Federation. Feeling against L N P L ran so high at the California convention that a resolution condemning discrimination because of race, color, creed or political affiliation was defeated on the ground that it would permit membership in LNPL.

Moving Picture Program Given by U. E. R. & M. W. of A. - Local 301 FREE - For all Union Members and their Families - FREE at Union Headquarters, Corner Erie Blvd. & Liberty St. Evenings of October 23rd, 24th, 25th, 27th, and 28th. Please note the feature, "The Strange Case of Tom Mooney," on program scheduled for Thursday, October 26th, will be played to Saturday Evening, due to unforeseen difficulties.