

## White Tells U. S. Senate Committee Why 301 Disapproves of Tom Clark

On instruction of the 301 Executive Board, Shop Steward Marshall White appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee at Washington, D.C., Aug. 10, to oppose the nomination of Attorney General Tom Clark to the United States Supreme Court.

He read a statement to the committee declaring that Clark's background as a petty politician in Texas and his actions as attorney general "indicate he does not have the qualifications of a Supreme Court justice."

### Cites AEC Case

He pointed out that Clark had participated in the "improper and unauthorized action" of the Atomic Energy Commission in depriving Schenectady atomic energy workers of UE representation in violation of the UE contract and of the law and in collusion with the General Electric Company.

"A law suit was initiated by our union against GE and AEC in which we asked the courts to decide whether or not the AEC is above the law and whether or not it could without any basis, interfere and destroy our contractual relationship with the GE," White said.

### Clark in Schenectady

"While it would be expected that Mr. Clark would participate in behalf of the AEC in court, we neither condone, approve nor tolerate his action in the course of that suit. On Oct. 27, 1948, Tom Clark while appearing in the City of Schenectady, N. Y., in response to questions by reporters stated that it is 'the usual tactic of subversive groups' to bring such matters to court and to institute such legal action.

"It is indeed strange that a nominee to the U. S. Supreme Court bench should express such feelings about an organization utilizing the orderly process of the courts to protect its interests. We do not see how a man who believes it subversive to protect one's legal rights by utilizing the courts and laws of the land is qualified by tempera-

### Did You Know?

On Oct. 25, 1929, President Hoover said "The fundamental business of the country—that is, production and distribution of commodities,—is on a sound and prosperous basis."

And despite signs pointing toward a second great depression, Secretary of Commerce Sawyer said June 27, 1949, "There is not one unsound element in our economy . . . it is . . . in superb condition."

ment, outlook or approach to sit on the Supreme Court of the United States."

### Roll-call Vote

The 301 Executive Board Monday approved White's report on the Washington hearing by a roll-call vote of 22 to 2. Voting for the report were Dewey Brashear, John Brauneisen, Phil Cognetta, for James Cognetta; Albert Davis, Anthony Esposito, Sidney Friedlander, Henry Kaminski, Joseph Kelly, Willard Kuschel, Edward J. La Bombard, Jr., Michael Donahue for Joseph Mangino; Robert Phillips, Helen Quirini, Sam Scott, Leland Sisto, Stephen Matarazzo for A. J. Spears, William Stewart, William Templeton, Anthony Villano, Vice-President William Hodges, Business Agent Leo Jandreau and Assistant Recording Secretary John Green.

Voting "No" were Recording Secretary Frank Fiorillo and Chief Shop Steward Stephen A. Watts. Leland Bellinger, alternate for Raymond Flanigan, abstained from voting. President Frank Kriss presided. Treasurer William Downs, Stanley Bishop, William Mastriani and Fred Pacelli were absent.



Members of the volunteer committee of unemployed 301 members elected last week by jobless 301 members to help carry out the union's program on unemployment. Front row, left to right, Caroline Reger, recently of Building 10-C; Robert Northrop, formerly of Building 17, chairman of the 301 committee on unemployment; and Eleanor Wolfe, formerly of 89. Rear row: Philip Bayer, who was in 52; Myrtle Tooley, 89; Dennis Jackson, 17, and George Anderson, 273.

## Local 301 Fights Delays in Jobless Pay Checks



Local 301 picket line in front of the State Unemployment Insurance office in Broadway Aug. 9, protesting the needless delays in issuing unemployment insurance checks. At the table unemployed workers are shown signing a UE petition to Governor Dewey asking for a special session of the legislature on unemployment.

## GE Illegally Docked Workers for Tools

A worker in Motor Generator was recently transferred to another building because of lack of work. The company said he must pay for all tools that were not accounted for or he would not be transferred and would therefore be out of a job.

Under this pressure, the worker signed an authorization under which GE deducted \$16.12 over a four-week period from his wages. He told the union the facts in the case and a complaint was filed with the State Labor Department July 19 through 301. A complaint was also filed in a second case which came to the union's attention, involving the docking of another worker \$3.51 for tools.

The Bureau of Enforcement of the Labor Department notified the union last week that GE had violated the law and that the company had agreed to reimburse the men for the illegal deductions.

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301

U. E. R. &amp; M. W. A. C. I. O.

Vol. 7—No. 33

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

August 26, 1949

## Walkout at Lynn Changes GE's Mind

After nearly 12,000 Lynn GE workers walked off their jobs last Friday to back up the fight of 800 maintenance and engineering workers, the Lynn management agreed not to tamper with the seniority and other rights and privileges of transferred maintenance employees.

Workers from the River Works, West Lynn and Everett took part in the demonstration on working time. Management promptly reversed its arbitrary position and agreed to maintain previous understandings about rights and privileges of maintenance and engineering division workers.

The company had ordered 187 maintenance workers to report to new locations at the plant Monday of last week as part of decentralizing the maintenance and engineering division. Although these were the only ones to be moved physically at present, about 800 workers in the division would be affected by splitting the division and assigning the employees to five other divisions. The proposed change threatened seniority and other rights and conditions that

(Continued on Page 2)

## GE Lobbyist Reilly Does Well for Reilly

Gerard Reilly, lobbyist for the General Electric Company and for General Motors, has filed in Washington his report on payments received during the second quarter of 1949. For April-May-June GE paid him \$7,864.11 and GM paid him \$6,000. Reilly, an attorney, is the former member of the National Labor Relations Board who helped draw up the Taft-Hartley Act.

Russ Nixon, UE Washington representative, says that Reilly's report shows that GE and GM are at least indirectly paying off former U. S. Senator Joseph Ball of Minnesota, notoriously anti-labor. Reilly reports that he paid Ball \$3,575 in these three months for "analysis and digest of committee hearings." This \$3,575 came from the money Reilly collected from GE and GM.

Reilly has other important accounts beside GE and GM, by the way, so that he shouldn't begrudge Joe Ball a share of the "take."

## Stewards' Meeting

The Local 301 shop stewards will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6 at the union hall.

## Union Calls Syracuse Meeting For GE, Westinghouse Locals

Representatives of all GE and Westinghouse locals in UE District 3 will meet next Tuesday night at Syracuse for a special joint conference on the 1949 campaign for higher wages, a shorter work week, decent pensions and other needs of the workers.

## 250 Companies Settle with UE

While the General Electric Company and other giant companies in the electrical industry have turned down the economic demands of their workers, nearly 250 smaller independent corporations have made full or partial settlements in 1949 contract negotiations with UE.

Final settlements already achieved this year with some companies run as high as 20 cents an hour in raises.

The big companies apparently are hoping to break up the union and get rid of strong national contracts in their plants in preparation for a drive to break down working conditions and seniority. These big companies hope in this way to take full advantage of the conditions of unemployment caused by their own profiteering and speed-up.

The UE General Executive Board recently recommended that such a conference be called in every UE district in the country to coordinate the campaigns in the two great electrical corporations. Both GE and Westinghouse have flatly rejected the union's contract proposals and have refused to take steps to halt the mounting unemployment in GE and Westinghouse plants.

### Delegates from 301

Local 301 will be represented at the Syracuse conference by six delegates elected Monday by the Executive Board. They are Business Agent Leo Jandreau, and Board Members John Brauneisen, Dewey Brashear, William Mastriani, Helen Quirini and William Stewart.

The call to the Syracuse conference said its purpose is "to exchange experiences and views and work out ways and means to conduct the most effective campaign in order to attain our objectives in 1949."

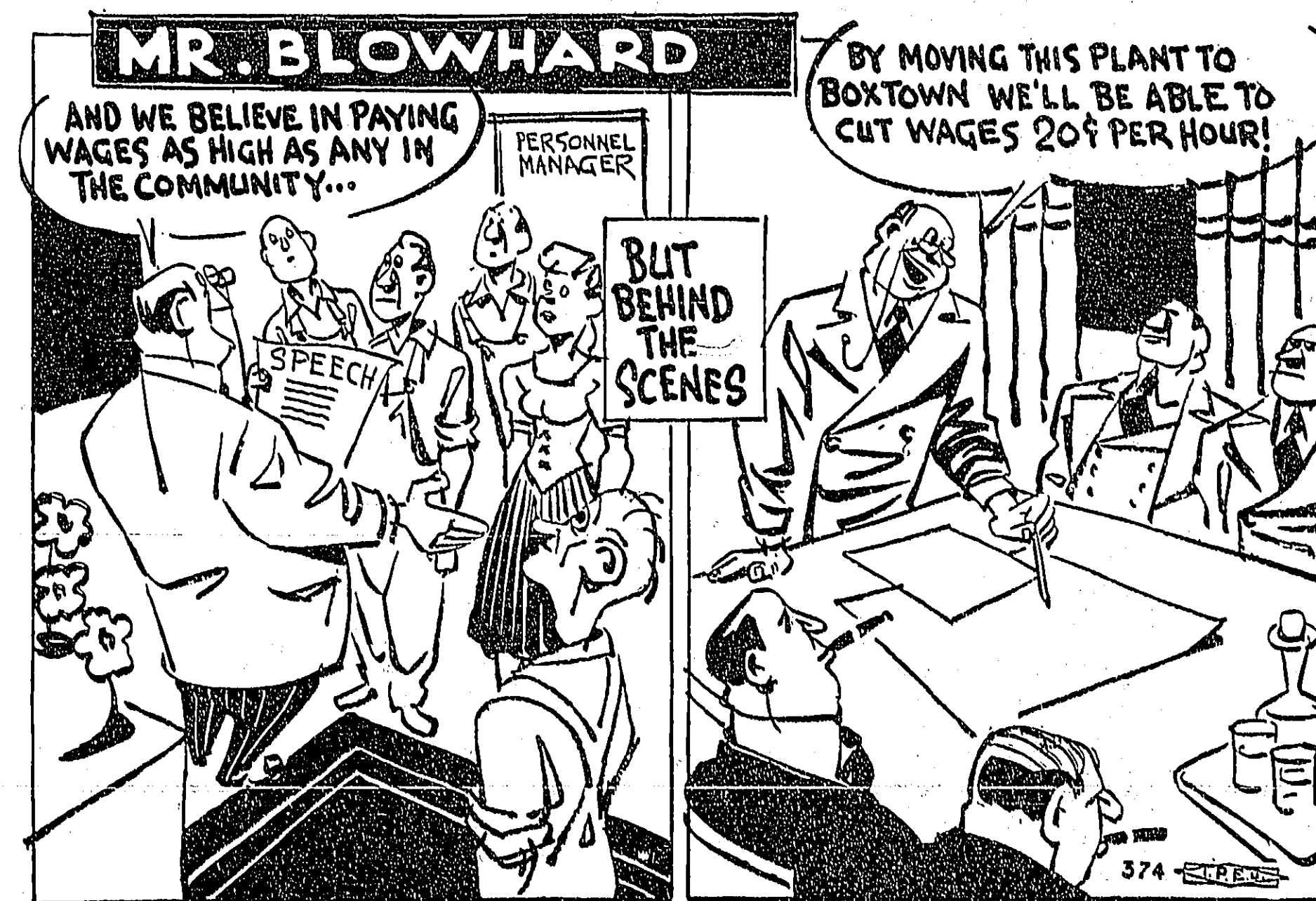
When this week's issue of EU News went to press no date had been announced for the meeting of the GE Conference Board. It is expected to be in early September instead of in late August as originally planned.

### GE Locals Act

The Local 301 delegates to the Conference Board are authorized by the membership to call for a formal strike vote throughout GE locals. Similar authority was voted by a number of other GE locals and action is still to be taken by a few.

The big Lynn, Mass., local at a membership meeting Monday night voted practically unanimously to instruct its delegates to call for a strike vote if necessary. Local 623 at the Pittsburgh GE plant recently voted the strike-vote authority unanimously.

The Pittsfield GE local plans a shop-gate meeting next Monday and has invited UE International Representative Albert Smith to be a speaker.



## NEEDED— SHORTER WORK WEEK TO SAVE JOBS

## Walkout at Lynn

(Continued from Page 1)  
had been previously guaranteed. GE refused to agree that seniority and other rights and privileges would continue unchanged, or to postpone the transfers pending discussions with UE. When transferred workers refused to take the new posts they were sent home by management. In protest against this lock-out, all 800 workers in the division voted Tuesday of last week not to work until GE agreed to meet with the union.

The thousands of workers who walked out in protest last Friday attended a huge meeting at which they voted full support to the maintenance workers.

The company then agreed that seniority would not be impaired and that other existing conditions would be continued, like the equal distribution of overtime work, and monthly meetings of maintenance and engineering shop stewards with the management on maintenance problems including outside contracts.

At the request of the local, the national UE office sent a representative, Albert Smith, to Lynn to assist in handling the situation during the entire week. In the first part of last week while the controversy headed to a showdown, Business Agent Fred Kelley of Lynn was at Fort Wayne and Cleveland campaigning for the presidency of UE, on the Carey "Democratic Action" ticket.

The clear-cut victory won by the Lynn membership through their militant action in the maintenance dispute was followed by a well attended membership meeting Monday night. This meeting heard a report by UE International Representative Joseph Turkowski on the deadlock in GE contract negotiations. The meeting voted practically unanimously to authorize its delegates to the GE Conference Board to call for a strike vote if necessary.

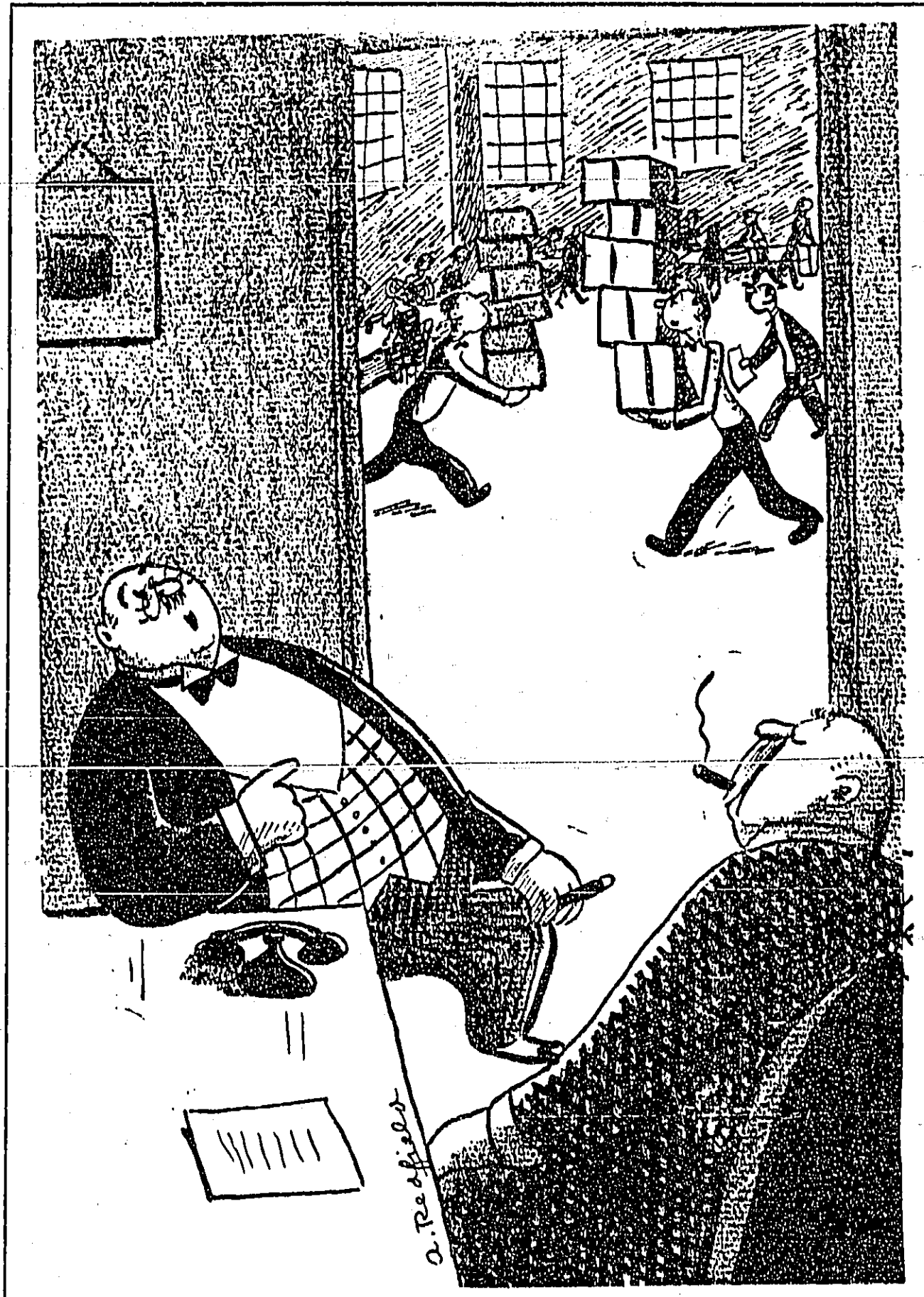
Various speakers emphasized that the kind of united, militant action that forced GE to drop its plan for scrapping the seniority of maintenance workers at Lynn could force the company to meet the union's contract demands.

**ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS**  
UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE  
WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO  
SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

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## Reward Them Well!



"... and as a bonus for more work per hour they get a personal handshake from you, J. B."

### Unemployed Members

If you are laid off for lack of work, protect your unemployment insurance rights and your job rights at GE by coming to the Local 301 office, corner of Liberty St. and Erie Blvd., immediately.

Be sure to apply for unemployment insurance the day after you leave work.

Keep your union membership by paying 10 cents a month dues.

If your unemployment insurance checks are delayed,

If you have any grievance regarding your unemployment insurance,

If you have any relief or eviction problem,

Or if you have any problem due to being laid off,

Come to the union hall. The union will do its best to help you.

IS YOUR SHOP  
100% UE?

## 301 Resolution On Foreign Policy

The 301 membership and stewards' meeting last week passed the following resolution on foreign policy to introduce at the national UE convention in September.

"Our country's foreign policy must be re-examined to date frankly and honestly, in the light of the growing unemployment which has hit this country.

"The Marshall Plan was sold to the American people with the promise of full employment here and better conditions abroad. It has brought us more than five million unemployed in America and growing unemployment in Europe. It was sold to us as a measure to help the working people. It has made the condition of the working people both here and in the Marshall Plan countries worse. While big employers on both sides of the ocean have profited from it at the expense of the American taxpayers.

"The Marshall Plan and the rest of our foreign policy today was sold as a policy of peace. It has brought the growing threat of war.

"The final proof of the bankruptcy of our foreign policy was given in the 'White Paper' on China. Our government spent billions of dollars on a policy whose aim in China was completely defeated and it has brought us only the lasting enmity of the Chinese people.

"Our foreign policy is promoted through the endless propaganda of government agencies, newspapers and radio about 'Russian Aggression', but this is achieved by the simple device of labeling 'Russian Aggression' any movement by the working people anywhere to win a better deal for themselves, just as every progressive action at home is called 'Communist'.

"While the bi-partisan coalition offers our present foreign policy as being in defense of democracy, it actually expresses itself in support of the most reactionary forces in every country in the world, specifically of the very forces in Germany and Japan which drove those countries to war against America.

"Our foreign policy today is not one in the interest of the American people but of, for and by Big Business. It is the product of the same people who put over the Taft-Hartley Law and taxation for the greedy instead of the needy. We call for return of our foreign policy to the hands of the people in order that the Roosevelt program of international peace may be restored and peaceful trade will put our unemployed back to work."

## Singer Strike Issues Affect Workers Here

Issues in the Singer Sewing Machine Company strike should concern every GE worker, Business Agent Leo Jandreau pointed out this week in a letter to Local 301 shop stewards.

"The Singer Company has made this strike a testing ground for Big Business," he said. "It has thrown everything it has into this strike to bust the union in the shops.

"If Singer succeeds it will make it easier for GE and other large companies to do a job on their workers. On the other hand, if the Singer workers win their strike, it will add a great deal of strength to every union and especially those in the process of negotiations."

The letter urged shop stewards to make regular weekly collections in their groups for the Singer strike, now in effect over 100 days. Members have been asked to donate 10 cents or more a week.

So far \$385.45 has been turned in at the union headquarters by shop stewards. Board Member Sidney Friedlander had the best collection record of any shop steward for the past week, as he turned in \$27 from his group.

### Out of GE's Mouth

In view of the GE propaganda that higher wage rates would be "bad for the country" because they would mean price increases, there is an interesting item in the "Employee Relations News Letter" for May 20. The "news letter" goes to higher supervision and is marked "For Circulation Among General Electric Management." The item reads:

"TWO new and compelling influences seem to be keeping employers from being the push-overs they have seemed for most of the last fifteen years. First, the cost of wage increases cannot be passed on in whole or in part to customers. Just the opposite is true — for price cuts are the order of the day."

That's the real reason for GE's saying "No." It does not want to yield any of its vast profits.

But the "compelling" reason for GE to say "No." is a compelling reason for GE workers to demand "Yes." More purchasing power, a shorter work week with 40 hours' pay, paid for out of profits, is just what the American people need to fight the depression.

By the way, when was GE a "push-over" for higher wages?

## Now Really, Mr. Reed, Remember the Record

Philip D. Reed, chairman of the Board of the General Electric Company, made a speech last Saturday in which he mentioned "unemployment insurance in which we so deeply believe."

GE has fought unemployment insurance the way it has fought all social security measures. It did more than any other company to weaken unemployment insurance in New York state by forcing through the merit rating law giving huge rebates to Big Business.

In his speech to the GE Quarter-Century Club Reed declared that the "vital competitive incentive system" of American industry must be continued "at all costs."

"If we maintain and improve it," he said, "there will be no difficulty about increasing the amount and duration of unemployment insurance in which we so deeply believe, and other desirable measures to guard against life's hazards and old age."

He warned against government "control" of industry.

He didn't mention that huge corporation profits, high prices, speed-up and lay-offs have been produced by the "incentive" system which GE advocates. And he didn't mention that some of the government "control" GE has fought included price control, the minimum wage law, and improvements to workmen's compensation and unemployment insurance.

In praising the increased efficiency of power machinery he said, "We are lengthening the workman's arm, so to speak."

But he didn't mention the right of the worker to higher pay for the work that "longer arm" does, or the company's responsibility for the workers displaced by the speed-up.

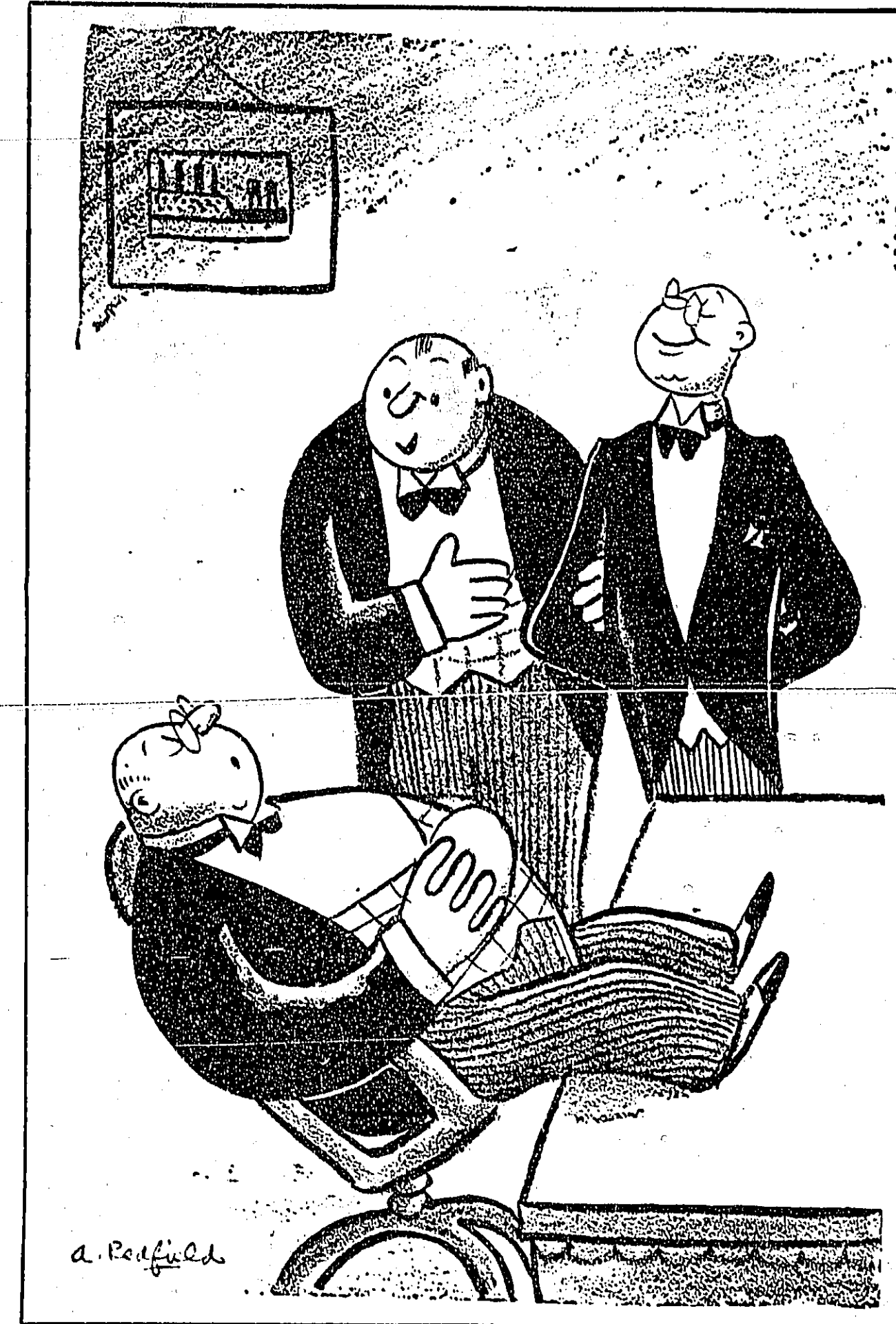
### Carey Group Spreads Some New Propaganda

The Carey "Democratic Action" group has been spreading a new piece of propaganda since a recent meeting staged by this anti-UE faction at Pittsburgh.

They are putting out the story that they have the majority of the coming national UE convention in September, but that the convention will be "stolen" from them. Therefore they have to prepare for a rump convention in November, they tell people.

In doing this they are admitting that they expect the UE convention to repudiate them.

## Industrial Progress



"Wake up. Here's Mr. Puddlewaffle, our new speedup expert."

### GE Has Quite a Nerve To Shout 'Pump-Priming'

The General Electric Company has attacked the UE program to meet unemployment and the developing economic crisis as "pump-priming."

GE and other great corporations, having dried up the well of workers' savings and purchasing power to build their own enormous treasuries, now refuse to give up any of the wealth to help the people.

This attack on the UE program as "pump-priming" comes with poor grace from a company that has never rejected any of the enormous aid the government has given it. During the war GE received special depreciation allowances from the government which added substantial sums to its reserves. In 1946 GE received a tax rebate of \$24 million from the government to pay its losses during the strike. It gets huge state re-

### Meeting for Jobless

Because the first Monday of September is Labor Day, the monthly meeting of unemployed GE workers will be Monday night, Sept. 12, at the union hall. After that the meetings will be the first Monday night of each month.

### 3,294 Jobless

There were 3,294 unemployed workers registered as of Aug. 10 with the Schenectady Unemployment Insurance office. No explanation was made of the drop from the 3,750 figure reported as of Aug. 5.

bates on unemployment insurance.

The company has bought government plants at a fraction of their cost. The company is receiving juicy military contracts. But as soon as legislation providing for social security, housing, etc. is proposed, it is labeled "communist," "socialistic" or "pump-priming" by GE.