

# LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE CIO

Vol. 1 -- No. 11

The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y.

May 28, 1954

## Audit Given To Judge; No Money Gone

On Monday the full and complete independent audit of Local 301 funds was introduced in court.

Special Hearing Master Julian Erway received the audit in Albany, where UE's phony "contempt" case is being heard. Upon receiving it, Erway commended the auditors for doing "a splendid analysis."

He said the audit "meets the stipulation of the Court in all detail."

At the same time, Erway denied the UE's outside attorneys a chance to further harangue the court about the \$54,900 they have talked so much about.

The audit clearly shows that this money will be returned to Local 301 upon demand. The audit states that Local 301 has two Surety Bonds which "are held as collateral to the deposits."

Thus UE's phony, lying stories about Local 301 funds stand exposed. The outsiders were also exposed as the ones who should really be held "in contempt."

Local 301's attorney moved to cite the outsiders for contempt because they "definitely perverted" stories about the funds. The Court Officer took the motion under consideration.

The audit gives a complete break-down of all money spent by Local 301 from Jan. 1 through March 31. With this in the official record, the outsiders should stop lying about Local 301 money.

However, because they are so completely bankrupt, they will probably continue to yell. They are still mad because they didn't succeed in their attempt to steal the money and property from the GE workers to whom it belongs.

## Company Offers Nothing On Pensions, Other Items

The General Electric Company has moved. Some, but not enough.

Monday in New York GE offered a wage increase of 2.68%. It also offered to remove the strings on holidays and make minor improvements in the vacation plan.

But GE is taking full advantage of the stall caused by UE.

The company is trying to defeat the unity we are winning by making us sign the Contract by June 7 — "or else!" On top of that the company is trying to make the Contract last for 15½ months—without a wage reopener.

This ultimatum of Boulware's is designed to use the delay UE is causing to pre-

vent our bargaining from the position of strength of 100,000 GE workers. Boulware feels that Local 301 is "immobilized" now and therefore cannot exert its additional strength to make GE come across with much greater improvements.

That's one of the reasons he is insisting that the new Contract be signed "by June 7." That is only eight working days from the time the offer was made.

Local 301 Business Agent Leo Jandreau was present with the IUE-CIO Negotiating Committee when the offer was made. The next day President Cognetta, Chief Steward Mastriani, and Board Member Pacelli, along with Jandreau, were present when the IUE-CIO GE Conference Board met to consider the first offer.

The Conference Board unanimously agreed that the offer cannot be accepted as the sound basis for a settlement. The Conference Board pointed out that:

- The wage offer is entirely inadequate.
- GE offered nothing by way of pension improvements.
- GE offered nothing on our demand for an 8th holiday.
- GE offered nothing on the question of health insurance or paid sick leave.
- GE offered nothing to solve the increasing problem of unemployment and the need for year-round pay-checks.

Other serious needs of GE workers were also left unanswered. But IUE-CIO is continuing to meet with the company to insist on more improvements. In the meantime the Local 301 Executive Board was called together to get a full report on negotiations and to advise the Negotiating Committee on the best course to follow.

Board members are now in the process of giving Stewards and Members a detailed report in the shop.



Members at Tuesday night meeting when they unanimously reaffirmed vote to unite the GE chain. Story on Page 2.

Wednesday night the Foundries — from Buildings 57, 91, 93, 95, 99-A, 101 and 105 — met and also reaffirmed their action of March 10 to bring 100,000 GE workers together under the roof of one Union — IUE-CIO.

## Election Should Be Ordered Next Week

A week ago yesterday the NLRB again went over every point about our petition for an election. At this hearing in Washington, UE got another chance to go over its entire case and bring up any new evidence.

The outsiders had no new evidence. They had no legitimate reason why we shouldn't have an election.

Now the case is in the hands of the Board.

Therefore, there is no reason why the Order for an election should not be issued within a week. In that way we can have our election over by the end of June.

# Members Reaffirm Action To Unite the GE Chain

At a membership meeting attended by more than 200 at Local 301 Headquarters Tuesday night, members from Building Trades, the Grounds and Buildings and three Bldg. 60 departments unanimously reaffirmed their desire to unite the strength of our Local with 80,000 GE workers in IUE-CIO.

The vote was on a motion from the floor to reaffirm the votes taken in the plant on March 10. At that time more than 12,000 GE workers voted and signed petitions to unite in IUE-CIO.

The motion also endorsed the IUE-CIO Negotiating Committee in our current fight for a substantial wage increase and Contract improvements. The motion was to support the Committee 100%.

The members got a full report on negotiations from the Officers who had just returned from New York.

It was pointed out how long UE has stalled and why they have tried to make a political football of grievances in the shop.

The financial situation of Local 301 was covered thoroughly and it was agreed that the outsiders have stooped to the smears and lies they have used because they have no program to offer GE workers.

The outsiders have served no useful purpose all the time they have been fouling up our affairs. The only person who has benefited from this UE disruption is Boulware!

# CAP Blasts UE For Use of Names

The outsiders are still using the names of any GE workers they can get their hands on to make it look like they have support.

Last week UE did it again. And immediately Local 301 exposed the trickery.

This week they did it again. And Arnold Power of CAP immediately came to Local 301 to condemn UE for using his name "without my knowledge or permission." Power further stated that he "heartily endorses the Officers and members of Local 301 in their move to unite all GE workers in IUE-CIO."

These phony stories by the outsiders are a hoax to cover up the fact that they have no support. Don't be misled by them.

Vince Martinez, who TKO'd Chuck Davey in the fight on T-V Wednesday night, is a member of IUE-CIO Local 410. He works at the Westinghouse plant in Bloomfield, N. J.

# More UE Shops Vote IUE-CIO

By a majority of 4-to-1 workers in another UE Local last Thursday voted to get out of UE and unite in IUE-CIO.

The day before that, workers in a Philadelphia local voted to disaffiliate from UE and join IUE-CIO.

And the day after, UE was again defeated by IUE-CIO in an NLRB election in Dayton, Ohio.

The 4-to-1 vote was at the Wilcolator plant in Elizabeth, N. J. The official vote was:

IUE-CIO -- 290  
UE ----- 78

That was UE Local 406. The Philadelphia victory was at Wiedmann Machine Shop. There, in separate membership meetings, both shifts of Weidmann workers voted by almost unanimous margins to dump UE.

On May 21, at an election at the Mercer Foundry Company in Dayton, UE was solidly whipped by a better than 8-to-1 vote for IUE-CIO. The contest was between IUE-CIO and UE Local 768.

Today UE has less than 3,000 members in Dayton, a city where it formerly had more than 30,000 members.

These are all examples of the steady decline of UE.

At the same time IUE-CIO keeps growing. Not only does it win members from UE, it also continues to organize other plants. Last Friday IUE-CIO was certified at Thomas Electronics Company in Passaic, N. J. after an NLRB election.

When was the last time UE organized a new shop?

# Everybody's After UE!

Add another Government agency to the long list that is already after UE.

In Erie last week the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Commission cited the "United Labor Club" for violation of state liquor laws. The citation carries six charges against the club which is run primarily by UE Local 506.

Two of the charges are for illegal gambling and "failure to keep complete and truthful records."

# Looking at the Outsiders

# NEIL EASTMAN — "Carpetbagger of the Labor Movement"

"A political prostitute."

"The prostitute of the Labor Movement."

Those are just a few of the things that people call Neil Eastman. People who know him.

Eastman is just one of the 300 paid hacks the outsiders have brought into Schenectady in an attempt to take over Local 301.

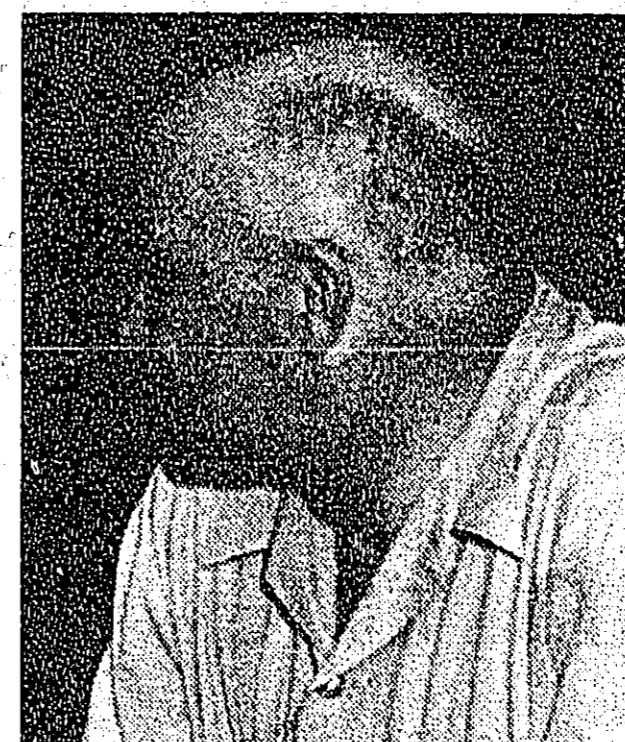
"Eastman will do anything for a price," says one Labor Leader who has known him for almost 20 years.

And just 16 months ago Eastman, himself, went about proving just that:

The last week in January, 1953, Eastman called a New York CIO Official and frankly offered to sell out the UE for a job. He called the CIO official at his home and said:

"Look, I'm through with UE. I'm fed up with this s---b---Matles.

"All he's doing is to use me as a 'fireman' to put out fires in one local after another when-



NEIL EASTMAN

ever one of them gets exposed as a Communist."

Then Eastman said he wanted to "switch." He wound up by asking if CIO had any place he could be "of service."

Eastman has a long record of moving from one Union to another.

First he was with UAW. Then he went to Mine-Mill and Smelter Workers, which was expelled from CIO in 1949 be-

cause it was Communist-dominated. Then he moved to the Farm Equipment Workers, also expelled.

Finally he moved to UE, as—in his own words—a "fireman".

While working for UE in Indiana Eastman lost three good elections in a row. So he was moved out of Indiana to Elmira.

Although he is a UE "organizer," Eastman has been serving as appointed "business agent" of the UE local in Elmira.

A couple weeks ago Eastman made a statement to the daily paper in Elmira that the GE local there was "solid for UE."

Immediately the workers in the shop started a petition condemning Eastman and denying that they supported UE. This petition, which is still being circulated against Eastman states:

"We the undersigned employees of the Elmira GE Works wish to refute the statement made by Neil O.

Eastman, business agent of 310, in which he stated 'the Elmira plant is solid for the UE'. We do not in any way support the policies of Neil Eastman or Local 310 of the UE."

The pattern of Eastman's "career" with UE follows the usual pattern of all the outsiders.

They move from one place to another. As more and more workers dump them, they move on. Finally they all wind up here.

And no wonder. This is about their last stand. They know that when Schenectady is gone, that's the end of UE. And that means the end of their jobs.

P.S.—Eastman's specialty is as a strong-arm man. Built like a bull, he is always ready to answer physically any question he can't answer logically.

But if anybody ever has courage to see Eastman roar, ask him if it's true that he is afraid to go back to the State of Michigan. Then ask him, "Why?"

# The Graveyard Boys Are Working Overtime These Days.



# Workers in 60 Halt GE Deal 301 Stops Co. Attack in 269

GE tried to get away with something again this week.

But swift action by Local 301 prevented it, and protected the GE workers involved. The same way Local 301 has protected GE workers for 17 years.

The case came up in Bldg. 60. The company tried to get a welder to do the work of a Safety Guard Maker.

Sam Lezzi protested and designated Board Member Rosa to handle the case. After Local 301 met with management, it was agreed that the welder will stick to welding.

# "Action"—UE Style!

Headline in the UE News—

"UE Demands Probe Of Runaway Shops"

Having failed to organize them, UE feels it, at least, ought to investigate them.

GE management has been forced to retreat on another attempt to take advantage of the UE stall.

In Bldg. 269, management was trying to force layoffs. So eager was the company to take advantage of the UE stall that it was laying off people faster than the staff could interview and place.

Steward Peclat filed a grievance on this Tuesday. He demanded a change in policy plus assurance that anybody laid off should receive pay for the Memorial Day holiday. He demanded an answer within 24 hours.

That same day Foreman Kiss replied in writing with:

"No one will be laid off without having gone through the proper interviewing procedure and whatever time is necessary for these interviews will be arranged for, even if the layoffs extend beyond the dates at present indicated. Furthermore, no one who is to be placed on another job will lose Holiday pay for May 31."

# 301 On the Job

Bldg. 37: George Randall, Class "A" Machinist, was laid off due to lack of work and did not receive a comparable offer. Board Member Templeton will take case up with management.

Bldg. 52: L. De Angelis, C. Latham and R. Peretta feel that the current lack of work situation should be alleviated by moving ahead work scheduled for the month of June. They have selected J. Cognetta to handle the case in No. 41.

Bldg. 53: George Blair, Class "A" Turvet Lathe Operator, according to seniority and prior agreement should be transferred back to Bldg. 285. Board Member Landolfo has been chosen to process this case in No. 41.

Bldg. 60: F. Greenwood and H. Williams are protesting violation of agreement by supervision in-

volving crane crews of Bldgs. 16 and 60. P. Rosa and C. McCabe have been selected to take case up at No. 41 for settlement.

Bldg. 64: E. Di Genova has been notified of layoff although there are other employees in the group with shorter service. Board Member Scott will process case with management to correct this violation of Contract.

Bldg. 66: Although R. Penman has been notified of layoff no offers of suitable jobs have been made. Board Member Scott will take case to No. 41 for proper offer.

Bldg. 73A: D. Conti protests the inadequate price for welding on job T19175045 Gr 6 Pts. 66-67. W. Mastriani will process case at No. 41 for time study and proper price.

Bldg. 107: In direct violation of an agreement between the trades groups and management an outside contractor is doing work in Bldgs. 28, 26 and 23. D. Stockheim has selected V. Palazek to process case at No. 41 so that management abides by the agreement.

Bldg. 273—D. Tomasone and C. Juskiewicz request payment for time lost on their welding job due to new procedure. D. Hart has been chosen to process this case with management.

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS  
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301,  
REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY  
GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee  
President.....James J. Cognetta  
Vice President.....Joseph Alois  
Treasurer.....Joseph Whitbeck  
Recording Secretary.....Miles Moon  
Asst. Recording Secretary.....Rudy Ristard  
Chief Shop Steward.....William Mastriani  
Business Agent.....Lee Jandrew  
301 LIBERTY ST. SCHENECTADY 5, N. Y.