

## Shelbyville Plans Shindig to Greet GE

Since no announcement has yet been made by Schenectady Plant Management in regards to what work is to replace that being lost by the transfer of the Industrial Heating Division, the following excerpt from the Indianapolis Times would seem to cast considerable doubt on Schenectady Management's assurances against increased unemployment here:

Shelbyville, Oct. 27—Shelbyville will toss a big shindig Saturday when it breaks ground for General Electric's new \$5 million plant.

Paul Sirkus, Commerce Chamber president, said several hundred chamber members will carry shovels when they go to the ceremony and all will turn over a spadeful of earth at the same time.

Mayor Philip Banawitz will speak and then all hands will fall to at an open air luncheon.

The new plant will house General Electric's industrial heating department.

## Committee Continues to Win Proper Placements

Each week more members being laid off or transferred realize the advantages of Union membership. The Placement Committee continues to negotiate proper placement, based on seniority, for members who do not receive suitable or comparable offers when laid off due to lack of work.

One such case was that of Lena English, CLG Test operator in Bldg. 28. Sister English with 4-22-43 service, was offered only a Cleaning or Porcelain job before her last day of work on 10-8-54. After reporting to the Union office on 10-11-54, the committee succeeded in having her placed satisfactorily on a drill press job in Bldg. 69. It is important that the member contact the Union at once when suitable offers are not made, so as to avoid lost time as in this case.

Helen Guerriero last worked on 9-3-54 when she was forced to leave her job because of a wrist injury. When her condition improved so that she could return to light work, she was not reengaged at Bldg. 1. Sister Guerriero is now working on a suitable Assembly job in General Purpose Control as a result of the Placement Committee's efforts.

## Drill Press Prices On 273 Job To Be Corrected

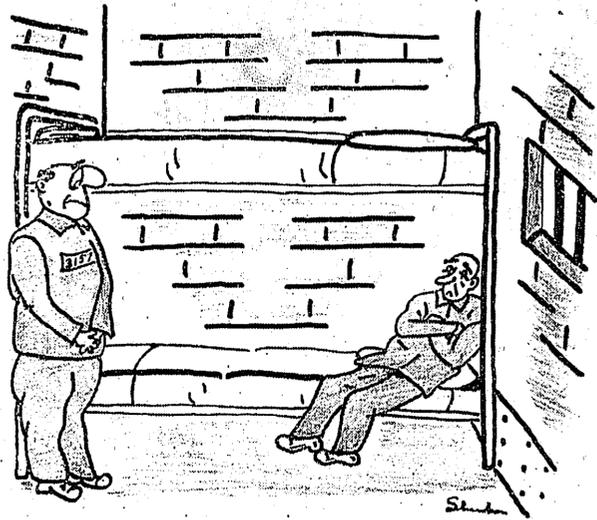
When Chester Polenz, Bldg. 273, protested the inadequate prices on drill press operations on fabricated standards, negotiations for fair prices at steward-foreman level were unsuccessful.

Shop Steward T. Mormon's written grievance requesting a time study was refused by foreman J. Kuhlberg. In a meeting at the Department level, Turbine Management agreed to a time study to arrive at fair prices.

## Bldg. 269 Voucher System Protested By Union

Shop Steward Helen Nichols reported to the Union office last week that Bldg. 269 supervision was attempting to initiate a new voucher accumulation system in that department. One of the provisions protested by the members was a requirement to turn in all piecework vouchers daily.

The Union protested this situation to Management who agreed that this provision would be eliminated.



"Well, when I was a foreman I started cutting prices..."

## Assembler Upgrade Won

When H. Hovey, Bldg. 273, filed a case for upgrade from CL C to CL B Floor Assembler, foreman Wilbard claimed a multitude of faults prevented him from complying with the request.

The Union pointed out that according to Bro. Hovey's previous foreman Milne, he had a good record and charged discrimination on the part of Foreman Wilbard. Hovey was also the Shop Steward in the case.

It was agreed to set up a trial period, during which Executive Board Member L. Gebo and supervision would observe Bro. Hovey's work. Meanwhile foreman Wilbard was transferred from the job. The new foreman, Obman, agreed that Hovey's work warranted the upgrade and so last month the CL B classification went into effect.

## First Ruling Made Under No-Raid Pact

The first dispute since the AFL-CIO no-raiding agreement to reach the final stage of arbitration by Umpire David L. Cole has been decided by Cole in favor of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers.

A local at the Swift & Co. plant at Mountrie, Ga., where the CIO union had held the contract 10 years, moved to switch to the AFL Butcher Workmen, which issued a charter. The Butcher Workmen asked an NLRB election. The CIO union appealed to Cole. He ruled the switch would infringe the no-raiding pact.

## Fifty Jobs — 2000 Applicants

Police had to be called last week to control the crowd of almost 2000 gathered at the employment office of the Monongahela Iron and Metal Company of New Eagle, Pa.

The 2000 applicants were in answer to an advertisement for 50 temporary laborers to remove abandoned railroad tracks. The jobs, expected to last about three months, will pay \$1.35 an hour.

A few weeks ago in commenting on GE's announcement of record profits again this year, despite a 7% decrease in sales, we stated, "Less sales plus more profits means less work. And of course the result can only be long lines waiting at employment offices—"

The leadership and membership of IUE-CIO are determined that this vicious cycle toward unemployment must be halted. That is why they have announced their intention to fight for their rights with the resolution "No Contract — No Work For 1955."

## Union Member Publishes Song, Charities to Benefit

Edward Stephens, a member of Local 301 has had a song entitled "It Might Have Been Me" accepted by a New York publisher.

Bro. Stephens has informed the Union that he wishes three worthy organizations to benefit equally from the sale of the records in this area—namely: Polio, Cancer and Cerebral Palsy Funds.

For this reason we are making an exception and are plugging this song. Records are available at 83 cents, phone 3-8472.

## Upgrade Won



Shop Steward W. Sherin

Charles Greenberg, Bldg. 273, was recently bumped by a longer service employee from CL A to CL B Toolmaker.

Shortly thereafter he notified his Shop Steward, W. Sherin, that although he was supposed to have been reduced to CL B he was still performing CL A work. Verbal discussion of the matter and even a written grievance resulted only in a reply from foreman M. Brogan that he did not feel Bro. Greenberg was doing CL A work.

The Union processed the case at the next step, Department level, where Management agreed to reclassify to CL A with retroactive rate adjustment effective 10-11-54.

# LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE CIO

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November 12, 1954

## I. U. E. Wins Rome, Georgia

### G.E. Tied to Pro-Segregation Group in Fight Against I.U.E. at Rome, Ga.

In a bitter NLRB election campaign the G.E. workers in the new General Electric plant in Rome, Georgia, voted last Tuesday for IUE-CIO as their collective bargaining agent. The plant is producing transformers which were formerly made in the Pittsfield G.E. plant and transferred to the South under the G.E. Decentralization Program. While there are only approximately 400 eligible factory workers employed at present, it is expected the plant will employ in the near future about 2,500 workers.

The election was a three-way battle between IUE-CIO, IBEW-AFL and the Company, the latter openly campaigning for "No Union". The first poll eliminated the IBEW but required a run-off under the NLRB rules because a majority of the total votes cast were not in favor of any one contestant. The run-off gave IUE-CIO 218 votes, "No Union" 177 votes, and there were 19 challenged votes. The management of the Rome, Ga., plant led a campaign in an unsuccessful attempt to persuade the employees to vote "No Union". The Company organized what they called a citizens' committee which distributed leaflets and used every anti-union

(Continued on Page 4)

## Weekly Bulletin

WEEK ENDING 10/29 - 11/5/54

### Transfers and Removals\*

Transferred	50
Removed	71
Reengaged	12

\* Figures based on information Co. is required to furnish Local Union under Article XIX.



Zurich, Switzerland — AFL and CIO unions will be represented when the seven million member International Metalworkers Federation holds its congress here Nov. 10-14. The AFL Machinists, CIO Auto Workers, CIO Steelworkers, and the CIO Marine and Ship Workers are affiliated with the IMF.

Baltimore, Md.—A strike of the Southern Hotel employees, members of the CIO Wholesale and Retail Workers, has moved into its sixth week. With the backing of CIO unions in the area, the strikers are seeking a RWDSU contract and improved wages. Men are now being paid as low as \$18 a week, waitresses 66 cents a day and laundry workers \$14.50 a week.

Elizabeth, N. J. — Some 5,000 CIO Electrical Workers were on the job again after a one-day strike which won their demands. Local 461 secured a boost of 90 cents in the company's contribution to the medical and surgical plan, making a total of \$2.50 a month per worker. The union also won election day as a paid holiday.

New York—A spokesman for the AFL Machinists reports that of the 7,000 employees laid off by Republic Aviation last August 23, only 1,000 have been able to obtain work. Workers are vainly trying to stretch the maximum of \$30 a week allowed in New York for unemployment compensation. IAM Local President Adam Domraski said.

Racine, Wis.—The joint AFL-CIO unity committee here plans to call a meeting soon to lay plans for a city-wide organizing drive. The recommendation will be placed before the AFL and CIO councils and as soon as it is approved the organization meeting will be called.

## Operation "Christmas Party" Underway

This week tickets went out in the mail to all Shop Stewards for Local 301's annual Christmas Party. Proceeds from the ticket sales, along with profits from the Union's Annual Field Day, will go toward the purchase of 4,000 toys, tons of candy and loads of fruit that will be in store for the children of Local 301 Union members. Valuable prizes to be awarded also will be announced at a later date. Tentative arrangements provide for the gala event to be held at Mont Pleasant School on Sunday, December 12th. The time and place will be confirmed in a later announcement. Plans of this year's Activities Committee have been streamlined so that all will have an equal opportunity to participate. Starting early in the morning members with their children can come any time of the day up until 9:00 P.M. and present tickets to Santa for their gifts. By eliminating the entertainment the entire affair can be run off in one day and the expenses saved used for gifts. See your Shop Steward for tickets now.

## Union's Part in Red Cross Blood Plan Explained For Local 301 Members

Numerous inquiries at the Union Office recently have necessitated an explanation of the Red Cross Blood Plan in effect in the Schenectady Works. In 1952, the Local's Executive Board approved the Red Cross Plan which eliminated the need for continuing the Union's own blood bank. The membership in May 1952

approved the Board's recommendation for the new plan whereby residents of the participating counties would receive free blood donations paying only the hospital fee for each transfusion.

Local 301 was to be responsible for securing donations from GE production and maintenance workers to keep the plan operating which at the time required 5,000 pints for civilians and 2,500 for military or 125 pints each time the Red Cross Bloodmobile visited Schenectady. The first such visit collected 286 pints from workers in the Turbine Division.

Anyone not now a member of the plan should see their Shop Steward for details.



**Local 301 IUE-CIO MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Monday, Nov. 15, 1954**

**2nd Shift**

**1:00 P.M.**  
(Before Work)

**1st and 3rd Shifts**

**7:30 P.M.**

**LOCAL 301 HALL**  
ERIE BLVD. & LIBERTY ST.

- Nomination of Officers
- Election of 25 Members to Conduct Elections
- Report of Constitution Committee
- Report of Other Committees
- Regular Order of Business

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**LOCAL 301 IUE-CIO**  
Miles Moon, Rec. Sec.

## Executive Board Makes New Assignments

In surveying the plant for proper representation the Executive Board found some buildings not properly represented because of changes or additions.

As a result the new 273 Lab. section will now come under the jurisdiction of Board Member William Kelly. Bldgs. 8 and 10 have been assigned to Board Member Joe Whitbeck. Board Member Bill Templeton will be responsible for Bldgs. 4, 6 and 7 plus 37 and 5.

## McNamara First Active Union Official Ever Elected to United States Senate

Detroit—Patrick V. McNamara will come to Washington as the first active trade union leader ever to sit in the U. S. Senate—and it was the labor votes which provided the margin of victory.

Normally, Wayne County and Detroit election returns are the first to be known in the state. This time, outstate returns were reported giving Republican incumbent Homer Ferguson a goodly lead. The outcome of the election hinged on the effectiveness of LLPE, PAC and the other labor political organizations.

The fact that McNamara overcame Ferguson's lead and won the election by 40,000 votes offers pretty good proof that labor political action paid off.

Other former union members

have held seats in the Senate but McNamara is the first active trade union official to sit in the select upper chamber of Congress. For the last 18 to 21 years he has held the post of president of Local 636, AFL Pipefitters.

In the House a number of active union leaders have seats. Rep. George Rhodes of Pennsylvania, was a former president of the Reading, Pa. AFL. Rep. Ray Wier of Minnesota was a national AFL organizer. Rep. Jack Shelley of California was a former Los Angeles AFL official.

## Price Increases Won in Bldg. 24



Mary Bartlette

When the Assemble and Wire Gain Control Units job in Bldg. 24 was converted from D.W. to P.W. Shop Steward W. Kennedy filed a grievance protesting the proposed AER and prices for the job.

A joint investigation was held with Stewards Bartlette and Sulzer representing the Union. Prices and AER were corrected after the case was processed at the management level. Further negotiations in the shop by Steward Bartlette, in the absence of Bro. Kennedy, resulted last week in additional retroactive payments of over \$70.00 each to two more operators on the job.

## Starting Rate Corrected

S. Cimino, Radio Drill Press Operator in Bldg. 105, was transferred due to lack of work to a DW job, Do-all Saw, 1.785 J.R. Supervision insisted his starting rate to be 1.685 on the new job on the basis that the jobs were not related and, therefore, training time could not be incidental.

Shop Steward A. Kremzier filed a grievance protesting violation of Contract, Article X-3 (a-4). The case was processed at management level where it was shown that the training time must have been incidental since Bro. Cimino was already qualified on the job. Management agreed to a retroactive adjustment of 2 steps for the time involved.

### 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 Alais  
 Treasurer.....Joseph Whitbeck  
 Recording Secretary.....Miles Moon  
 Ass't Recording Secretary.....Rudy Risland  
 Chief Shop Steward.....William Mastriani  
 Business Agent.....Leo Jandreau  
 301 LIBERTY ST. SCHENECTADY 5, N. Y.

## IT NEVER FAILS BY KALLAS



## Election Committee Will Be Elected at The November Membership Meeting

The members present at the membership meeting on Monday, November 15, will elect 25 to act as an Election Committee.

This Election Committee will be in charge of the local elections, and they will determine, in accordance with the Local's Constitution, the eligibility of the nominees and the members voting. This Committee will also set the time and the place of the voting, as well as arrange for voting machines if possible.

Only members in good standing at the time of the November membership meeting will be allowed to vote. Each presidential candidate may appoint three watchers. The candidates may examine the voting machines and voting booths immediately prior to the opening of the election. They may be present during the tally.

The Election Committee must make a written report to the membership at the January meeting.

## Merit Increase Won

On November 3, Shop Steward William McColl filed a written grievance to secure a merit increase for Frank Schermerhorn, Bldg. 273, Production Follower Class B.

Bro. Schermerhorn's long service and experience obviously qualified him on this job to which he was recently transferred. Supervision agreed to a rate increase from 1.835 to 1.91 effective 11/8/54.

## Use of Ballots for Election Possible

The Election Committee to be elected at the November 15th membership meeting may face an additional problem to their already full schedule this year. Indications are that, due to the canvass of gubernatorial votes in New York State, all voting machines will be tied up until at least December 17th and possibly longer.

The IUE Local 301 Constitution states: "The Election Committee, if possible, shall furnish voting machines in place of paper ballots." Therefore the Committee will have to check on the availability of the voting machines or the alternate method of paper ballots to be marked by hand.

## Average Earnings Won

B. Baker and P. Peluso, Bldg. 28, were laid off due to lack of work and during their week's notice lost several hours from their piece work operations in looking for suitable placement.

When foreman Wege stated he would only pay idle time for the time lost, they had their Shop Steward E. Smith file a grievance for average earnings. The case was processed at management level where it was agreed to make proper payment.

## Cash Payments to Injured Workers Provided With Limitations

Although the Workmen's Compensation Law requires an employer to provide his injured employees with all necessary medical treatment and to compensate such workers for lost time or reduced earnings, not all injured workers are entitled to cash settlements for their injuries.

To receive cash settlements for their injuries, injured workers must meet certain conditions.

First and foremost, the injury must be one which is permanent—that is to say, the worker must have lost the use of a limb in part or in a whole on a permanent not temporary basis.

Secondly, the injury must have been to a specified part of the body, such as the arm, the hand, a leg, a foot, any finger or toe, an eye, the ability to hear or a disfigurement to the face.

The Law provides a schedule (hence these type of injuries are known as scheduled types of injuries) of weeks for each of these injured members which is used as a basis for computing the cash settlement. The schedule is as follows:

Member Lost	Number of Weeks of Compensation
Arm .....	312
Leg .....	288
Hand .....	244
Foot .....	205
Eye .....	160
Thumb .....	75
Index finger .....	46
Middle finger .....	30
Ring finger .....	25
Small finger .....	15
Great toe .....	38
Other toes .....	16
Loss of hearing, one ear .....	60
Both ears .....	150

The maximum amount for loss

of hearing is 150 weeks and for a facial disfigurement, \$3,500.

Since the maximum award for any worker who loses an arm receives 312 times \$36 or \$11,232.00. If the worker has a 50% loss of use of the arm as a result of an accident, he receives 156 weeks of compensation or \$5,616.00.

A worker with a permanent injury receives this cash award no matter how little or how much time from work he has lost. For this reason, it is to the worker's interest to return to work with this type of injury as soon as he is physically able to do so. Very often we find the very serious injustice under the law of a worker who has, for example, a 10% permanent loss of a foot which would entitle the worker to 20½ weeks of compensation at \$36.00 a week or \$738.00, except for the fact that the worker was forced to stay away from work due to the injury, with the result that he has drawn all or almost all of this money by way of weekly payments of \$36 each while away from his work. Even if the worker has returned to work, but was drawing reduced earnings, the sum for reduced earnings is also deducted from the cash settlement leaving little, if anything, to the injured worker for the crippling effect of his injury. This is one of the shortcomings of the law which needs immediate correction.



## Accumulator Upgraded Two Operators Recalled

A. L. Van Heusen, an accumulator with 39 years of service, was unable to accept an offer of upgrade when it was offered to him in Feb. 1953. Since that time supervision would make no further offers and instead upgraded shorter service employees.

A grievance was filed by his Shop Steward J. Whitbeck for further offers for which Bro. Van Heusen was qualified and could now accept.

The case was closed last month when management agreed to place Bro. Van Heusen in Bldg. 285 as a CL B Stockkeeper.

After a recent reduction of Vertical Boring Mill Operators in Foreman C. Schwier's section, Bldg. 273, it was discovered that work was being farmed out.

Shop Steward P. Lombardi filed a case for the group protesting the farming out of work while a machine was to be left idle as a result of layoffs due to an alleged lack of work. The farm-out problem was settled satisfactorily when two operators were recalled last week to fill the vacancies.

## IUE-CIO 301 On the Job

IUE Local 301 handles thousands of grievances at all levels each year. These are just a few examples of cases, not settled at steward-foreman level, to be processed at management level.

Bldg. 28: Louise Musco, CL E Inspector, has been assigned additional duties requiring increased skill and knowledge. Shop Steward G. De Cresce has filed a case for evaluation and proper rate adjustment.

Bldg. 49: Hydrotel Operators in Steward F. Di Manno's group object to price offered to machine buckets. The standard price should apply since the methods are the same as those used in Bldg. 273 where standard prices are already established.

Bldg. 60: Glen Lettis with 12 years service is being transferred intermittently. Steward Herbert's case is to secure placement in busier section.

Bldg. 46: F. Marhafer, CL A Assembler with 12/6/40 service has not received suitable offer for placement.

**Union MEMBERSHIP IS A GOOD BUY**

Bldg. 16: Steward Corless has filed a case for S. Kaminski whose rate has been cut although he is doing the same work. Union demands correction.

Bldg. 273: Foreman Heider includes in his duties emptying waste baskets, cleaning the floor, grinding, etc. Group under Steward Ross demand addition of necessary help.

Bldg. 66: J. Witowski and A. Musto in Steward Scott's group demand payment of additional 15.00 for stator frame job 440-3005 as supervision agreed.

Bldg. 60: Steward V. Palazek's group feel that the recent openings

in Millwright classification should be filled by qualified helpers.

Bldg. 269: A. Biener, Class B Toolmaker in Shop Steward E. Pelet's group, feels he is capable of doing C1 A work. Union demands opportunity for upgrading based on service.

Bldg. 40: William Bouvia in Shop Steward Morrissey's group, although classified as an Accumulator is assigned and performing duties of a C1 B Stockkeeper. Union demands proper reclassification and rate increase.

Bldg. 273: Shop Steward Olivieri has filed a case for proper classification on the 110 Drop Air Wedge Slotters Radius on 1/8" Carboly Profile Taper Cutters B65 and B66 Finish Dovetail Slotters.

Bldg. 40: F. Pingatore in Shop Steward T. Morrissey's group, although classified as an Accumulator, is assigned and performing work of a C1 B Stockkeeper. Union demands proper reclassification and rate increase.

Bldg. 273: Chippers in Shop Steward A. Merendo's group, although classified as C1 B feel that the work they are performing is C1 A. Union demands proper reclassification and increase of rate.

Bldg. 66: J. Wyrick and J. Blaser in Shop Steward Scott's group protest inadequate price on Stator Frame 522E506 and demand a time study to arrive at fair price.

Bldg. 273: George Van Vranken and George Patierno have filed a case through Shop Steward H. Podell protesting discrimination shown

ASK YOUR SHOP STEWARD AGOUT IUE LOCAL 301 COMPENSATION SERVICE