

\$850 Won for Facial Disfigurement In Compensation Case Against GE

Workmen's Compensation awards made recently to union members against GE include \$850 to Walter C. Chant, Bldg. 107, for facial disfigurement in an accident last Nov. 26.

Other cases, handled also by the Local 301 attorney, Marshall Perlin, resulted in the following awards:

\$100 to Armand Paravani, Bldg. 73A, for facial disfigurement suffered Dec. 6, 1946.

\$126 to Donald T. Caswell, Bldg. 66, for injury to his left little finger Jan. 13.

\$258 to Gerard Pilon, Bldg. 10, for 20 per cent loss of the use of his left index finger in an accident last Oct. 21.

\$140 to Ignatius Derkowski, Bldg. 40, for a facial scar incurred June 9, 1947.

\$225 to Paul Santa Barbara, welder in Bldg. 105, for a facial scar received July 7, 1947.

\$233.33 to Joseph Andreano for one-third loss of the use of his left ring finger in an accident June 10, 1947.

\$175 to Joseph Vitrella, Bldg. 18, for a facial scar resulting from an accident last August.

\$28 a week disability pay to Frank S. Guido, foundry worker, from Apr. 30 to July 7 and continuing until a hearing in September. He suffered a hernia July 7, 1947.

\$61.60 to Stefano Matarazzo, Bldg. 60, to cover period from last Nov. 14 to Dec. 8, for an injury to his left arm, suffered last Nov. 11. The case was adjourned for three months.

\$28 a week to Guy U. Flatt, Bldg. 105, from June 7 to July 12 and case to continue for two months with compensation. He suffered a double hernia in July, 1947.

\$27.13 a week to Elsie Lynch, Bldg. 53, from Apr. 30 to June 18. The case is to continue at the same rate for four more months. She was injured June 13, 1946.

\$28 a week compensation continued for Anthony Baron, Bldg. 53, injured May 7.

GE will pay all necessary medical treatment for Adam Griffith, who is suffering from the recurrence of a hand ailment. The original accident to his hand was in 1934.

\$28 a week to Ernest Carlson, Bldg. 285, from May 28 and to continue, for a double hernia suffered in March.

\$56 compensation to Margaret Calkins for the period from Apr. 22 to May 6, for an accident which occurred Mar. 15. The company is to pay for all necessary dental treatment.

\$50 to Frank Holton, Bldg. 40,

10 Per Cent Raise For Women Welders

A group of women spot welders in Bldg. 19, for whom dockets were filed early this year, are to receive a 10 per cent piece increase on their piece work, effective as of Apr. 8.

This adjustment was agreed to by Louis Male last Friday at a session with Business Agent Leo Jandreau after no satisfaction had been obtained at lower levels by the union. The union showed that changes in working conditions had lowered the earnings of the women. Shop Steward Sidney Friedlander filed the grievance.

Two of the women, Mary Gerardi and Ellen Smith, recently discussed this case on the 301 radio program.

Male told Jandreau that he has not completed investigating several other grievances sent to the Howell level.

Contract Brings Raise, Ends Bedeaux Speed-up

In addition to winning wage increases through their new UE contract, workers at the Yale and Towne Lock plant at St. Catherine's, Canada, have scored a victory over the Bedeaux speed-up system there. Management agreed to eliminate the Bedeaux system within the contract year and replace it with a straight piece-work system.

The contract provides a raise of 10 cents an hour for day workers and 12 cents for piece workers.

for period from May 12 to May 25 for a finger injury suffered May 4.

All costs for dental treatment for Albert Prout, Bldg. 16, injured Apr. 23.

\$28 a week to Peter Snare, from May 25 to June 22 for a hernia. The case is to be continued for three months with compensation.

\$28 a week to Sanora Blakely, Bldg. 28, from May 7 to June 25.

\$28 a week to James Vernacchio, Bldg. 60, from Mar. 17 to June 21, for a head injury suffered Mar. 15.

\$15 a week to Wayne Crandall, Bldg. 66, from Mar. 25 to Apr. 23, for a back injury. The compensation is to continue at that rate.

\$28 a week to Dominick Dominico, Bldg. 60, from Apr. 8 to May 18 for an injury to his right hand suffered Apr. 7.

His Blood Type Is UE-301



John Sammler, second shift worker in Bldg. 73A, answers the 301 Blood Bank Committee's call to donate blood to the Ellis Hospital Blood Bank to replace blood used in a transfusion for a 301 member. The nurse is Jane Mitchell.

301 Votes To Drop Expulsion Cases

On recommendation of the Executive Board, the 301 membership and stewards' meeting this week voted to drop all proceedings concerning the case of three members expelled by the local and reinstated under a temporary injunction.

The Board pointed out that the case would tie up the union officers and staff for weeks in legal entanglements during a trial and appeals, and that the time could not be spared.

The three members involved are Frank Fiorillo, Martin Stanton and Carmine Di Girolamo.

301 on Air

The Local 301 broadcast is at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday over WSNY.

Attention Vets!

Veterans who have allowed their National Service life insurance to lapse have until the July 31 deadline to reinstate it without undergoing a complete medical examination.

Until July 31, all a veteran has to do is to file a Veterans Administration form in which he states that his health is as good now as it was when the insurance lapsed.

Blood Bank Request Turned Down by GE

The GE hospital facilities are not great enough for the company to type the blood of Local 301 volunteer blood donors, Louis Male, general superintendent, told Business Agent Leo Jandreau recently.

Jandreau brought up the question at a session in Bldg. 41 after the union office had received no reply to a request, made some weeks before, that management cooperate with arrangements for a 301 Blood Bank.

The Blood Bank committee has given shop stewards forms for members to sign if they are willing to volunteer as blood donors. The committee wants to have their blood typed, so that the file can contain this information. Then if a particular type of blood is needed in an emergency there will be no delay in locating a suitable donor.

With the Works hospital unavailable for these tests, the committee is taking up the matter with Ellis Hospital.

Out Iowa Way

Wage increases ranging from eight to 17 cents an hour were won by the workers of the Automatic Washer Company at Newton, Iowa. The UE contract will also cover the new Automatic plant which will be operated in Mason City, Iowa.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

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July 30, 1948

Peterson-Gross Campaign Needs Many Volunteers

The 301 Executive Board this week issued a call to the union membership for individual money contributions and volunteer workers for the primary campaign of Andrew Peterson and Dr. Walter S. Gross. The membership and stewards' meeting last week endorsed President Peterson as candidate for Congress and Dr. Gross for State Senate, and pledged all-out support for their campaign.

Primary Day Aug. 24

Volunteers are wanted from every building to devote a few evenings to canvassing for Peterson and Gross and to work Primary Day, Aug. 24. Both are fighting against Democratic machine candidates in the primary.

A meeting of Local 301 volunteer workers for the Peterson-Gross campaign has been called for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 3, at the union hall.

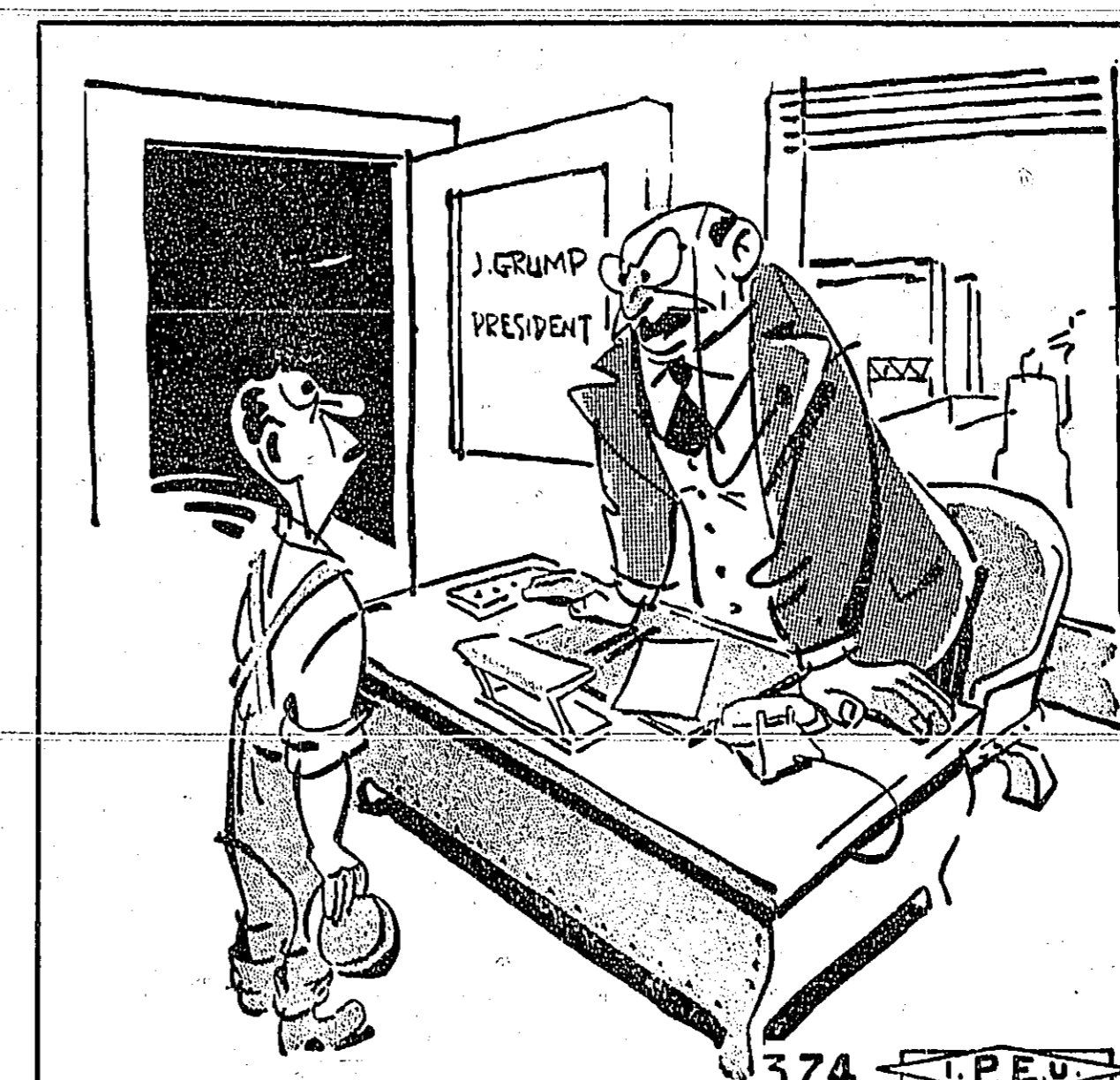
On the basis of a report made at the Executive Board meeting Monday night, the Board decided that money raised at the 301 Field Day can be used for campaign material of a general educational nature on election issues, but cannot be used specifically for the Peterson candidacy. The union membership has authorized spending up to \$1,500 from the Field Day funds for the political educational program.

Must Rely on Volunteers

Officers pointed out that political machines rely on paid workers, but that the Peterson-Gross campaign must depend on people who volunteer because they know they are working for their own interests, for the welfare of their families, for lower prices, lower taxes and security, and for the preservation of their union.

Voluntary donation receipt books were distributed this week to shop stewards who will collect contributions in their shops, for the election of the candidates endorsed by the membership. These donations will be made to the Local 301 Independent Political Action Fund. What little money remains from last year's PAC voluntary contributions will be used chiefly for leaflets.

The officers of the union, who



When I started to work here I got \$7.00 a week and if it wasn't for the union you would have the same opportunity too!

were named as the 301 Political Action Committee by the membership, have appointed a sub-committee to handle 301's day-to-day work in the primary fight. This sub-committee consists of Morton F. Lewis, Bldg. 46, an experienced Democratic political worker, Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani, and Business Agent Leo Jandreau.

They were to get in touch this week with union and farm leaders and other groups to organize Peterson campaign committees in Montgomery, Fulton, Otsego and Hamilton counties.

Humorous Note In Craft Dispute

J. M. Howell's letter to craft members, July 23, said:

"Last Saturday we suspended overtime work for all who had walked out the previous Wednesday."

This was after the men themselves had decided they wanted no overtime during the dispute.

And then, after all, several days after Howell's letter, supervision in Welded Products still was pleading with the men to work overtime.

Gaeth Will Broadcast From Foreign Capitals

What do plain people in Europe think about the prospects for peace, American aid, and other issues?

Arthur Gaeth, who broadcasts the national UE radio program, has gone to Europe to ask these questions and report the answers. Starting next Monday night, Aug. 2, he will broadcast from foreign capitals weekly through Sept. 13.

The program will be at 10 p.m. over WSNY, Schenectady, and WOKO, Albany.

Next week's program will come from Paris. The schedule is: Rome, Aug. 9; Athens, Aug. 16; Tel Aviv in Palestine, Aug. 23; Prague, Czechoslovakia, Aug. 30; Berlin, Sept. 6, and London, Sept. 13.

Stewards to Meet With Membership

The 301 membership and shop stewards' meetings for August will be combined, as they were in July. This means that the stewards' meeting which would ordinarily take place next Tuesday night will be held jointly with the membership meeting Aug. 17.

MAKE YOUR SHOP 100% UE

GE Will Meet With 301 on Craft Rates

Negotiations on the rates for skilled crafts will begin Monday afternoon in Building 41. Business Agent Leo Jandreau will head the union committee. The joint craft steering committee will attend.

The apparent break in the deadlock came after the building trades members had refused overtime for six weeks, and the toolmakers, tool room, machine operators, machinists (non-production), and welders had held three successive weekly protest meetings during working hours. These crafts also had been refusing overtime for two weeks.

Howell Writes to Union

In a letter to the union agreeing to the negotiations, Works Manager J. M. Howell said that if the union had "evidence to support the belief that the rates of these groups are presently out of line with the wage level of industry in this community for comparable work," then he suggested that "we begin discussions for one of the groups immediately after a week has elapsed during which there are no work stoppages or other demonstrations by the members of your Union."

Howell added: "I wish to make it clear that in agreeing to discuss the wage rates of these groups of employees, we are not making any promises — either explicit or implied — to give further increases, but will be guided by the facts and evidence presented at the meetings."

Union's Position

Replying in the absence of Jandreau on vacation, Victor Pasche assistant, told Howell that the union would discuss area rates but would not "confine our evidence to the so-called community rates. In view of the position of the GE Schenectady plant in the industry, we shall naturally go into rates of competitors which offer a reasonable basis of comparison and which show that the rates here are too low."

The joint steering committee of craft representatives held a special meeting Tuesday night and accepted the letter from Howell as a basis for negotiations. It un-

(Continued on Page 2)

GE Security Corp. Calls in All Bonds

Details about the dissolving of the GE Security Corporation and the disposal of its funds were reported to last week's membership and stewards' meeting of Local 301 by Fred Matern, Bldg. 60, machinist. Matern has been an employees' representative on the Security Corporation board for three years. He has been a member of 301 since its start.

The corporation will go out of existence Aug. 31, he reported. Workers who have invested in Security Corporation bonds have been asked to turn in their bonds at Bldg. 2 by that date. They will receive the money invested plus 15 per cent, and also regular interest for the past six months.

He reported that six to nine million dollars will be left after the corporation repays all investments and pays the 15 per cent. This money will be set up as a hospitalization fund for all present and future pensioners.

From this fund any pensioners, while in a hospital, will be able to get five dollars a day, up to a total of \$250, toward his hospital room. He also can get \$25 for extra hospital expenses.

Matern was asked from the floor whether a pensioner who is ill at home, instead of at a hospital, can't get help from the fund toward his doctor's bill.

"GE insisted that only hospital expenses be covered," Matern answered, "and that nothing go toward doctor's bills."

Getting the hospitalization fund in any form was a struggle, he added.

Vice-President William Hodges said the union's fight for increased pension benefits helped pave the way for the hospitalization fund.

In describing a proposed new GE savings plan, Matern mentioned figures based on saving 10 dollars a week.

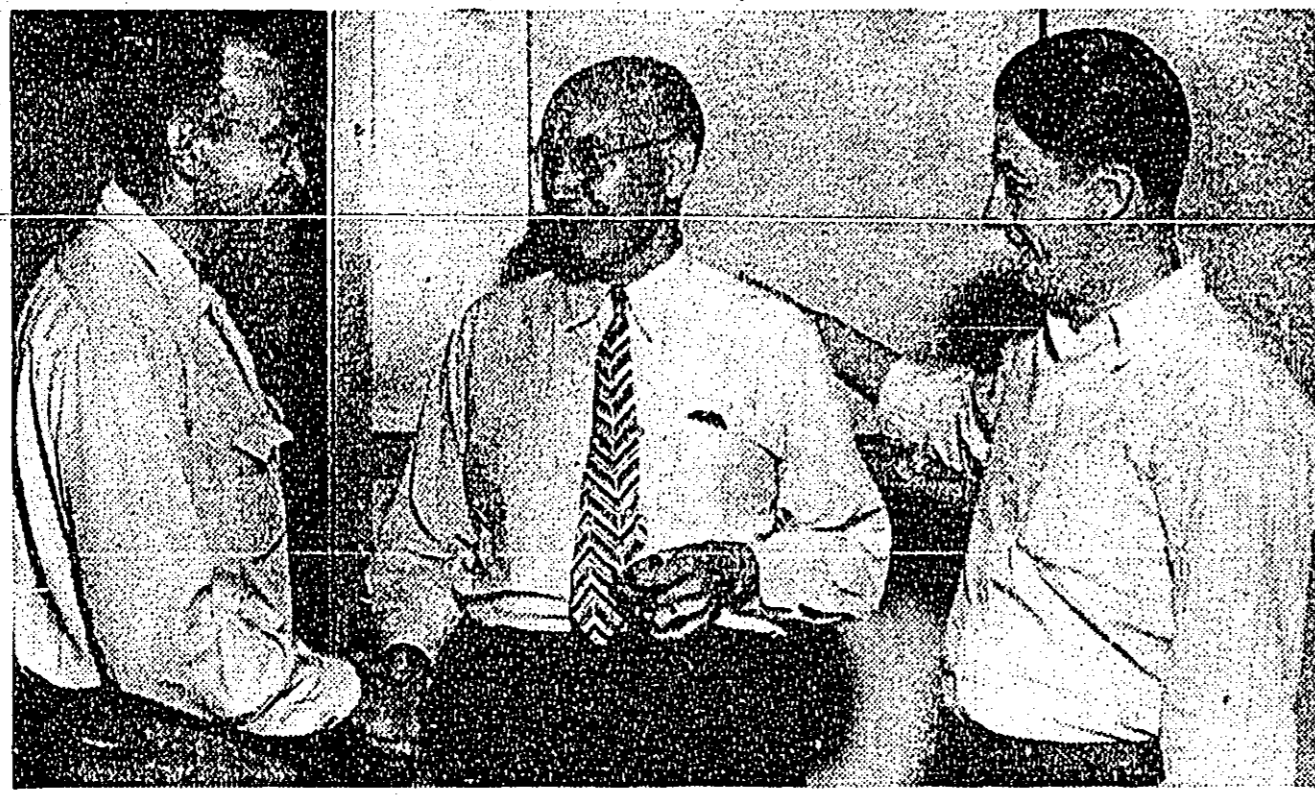
"How can a worker save \$10 a week with prices what they are today?" a member asked. "How can we save anything?"

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301 President Greet Hoover Strikers



President Andrew Peterson welcomes two UE strikers from the Hoover Company, Canton, Ohio: Marvin Clines, at left, and Robert Hukill, right.

GE Will Meet On Craft Rates

(Continued from Page 1)

animously recommended to the craft groups that the demonstrations be suspended immediately, with authority to the steering committee to call the demonstrations again if necessary. It also recommended that the men continue to refuse overtime work.

Last week's protest walk-outs were the largest yet held. They came after those who took part the previous week had received a letter from Howell warning of "more drastic disciplinary action" and of "resulting lay-offs for those involved" in further demonstrations. Later Howell wrote Jan-dreau that he had not meant lay-offs in retaliation for the walk-out.

The welders' protest meeting last Friday decided, with one dissenting vote, to continue the demonstrations until the company was ready to negotiate.

The tool room and machinist groups had taken similar action the previous Wednesday, by a six to one vote.

Also involved in the craft dispute and pending negotiations are the millmen in the carpenter shop in Bldg. 76.

Softball Game

The 301 girls' softball team, which was defeated by the Pittsfield UE girls at the 301 Field Day game, will have a chance to even the score Aug. 22. The Schenectady girls have been invited to play in Pittsfield that day.

8 Per Cent Raise

An eight per cent general wage increase was negotiated with Bas-sick Company, Bridgeport, Conn., by UE Local 229. The raises range from nine to 15 cents an hour.

301 Gives \$500 To Hoover Strike

A \$500 donation to the UE strikers at the Hoover Company plant at Canton, Ohio, was voted by the 301 membership and stewards' meeting last week. The meeting also voted to cooperate with the national UE boycott of Hoover products.

The 301 Executive Board decided Monday to send a delegation to the Schenectady Hoover agency to inform it of the 301 action and to ask that it urge the company to settle with UE.

Two strikers, Robert G. Hukill, a rank-and-file member, and Marvin Clines, a trustee of Local 709, gave a vivid report of this fight against the vacuum cleaner manufacturing concern at last week's meeting.

They said the company has sent goons to beat up the strikers and that 22 Pinkerton men follow strikers around Canton and out of town. A court injunction has limited the union to 10 pickets, six at the main gate and two at two other entrances. Strikers don't get any unemployment insurance. Company foremen have been made deputy sheriffs. And the union is involved in contempt-of-court charges.

Hukill and Clines are visiting eastern UE locals asking for financial support for the strike and urging that people stop buying Hoover products until the strike is won. The workers walked out June 10 after the company proposed a pay cut.

U. S. Steel Grants July 16 Pay Raise

The United States Steel Corporation granted a pay raise July 16 to the United Steelworkers. The union said the increase averages 13 cents. UE and the Auto Workers had previously obtained raises in their industries.

The Steelworkers could not join with the other two big CIO unions in bringing pressure to bear for pay increases because they were tied to a no-strike provision in their two-year contract. UE and Auto defeated the "no pay raise" policy of General Motors first, and then other corporations agreed on wage increases.

The U. S. Steel pay raise is effective as of July 16.

Raises at Peabody

UE has signed an agreement with the United Shoe Machinery Corporation at Peabody, Mass., bringing pay raises of nine to 17 cents to the more than 2,000 workers there.

Peterson to Attend Washington Session

At the direction of the 301 Executive Board, President Andrew Peterson will go to Washington next week to attend the emergency legislative conference called by the national UE in connection with the special session of Congress. The conference will be Wednesday and Thursday, July 4 and 5.

One of the reasons for the emergency UE meeting is the danger that the Mundt Bill will be revived. The union members will visit their representatives and senators to oppose any such repressive bills and to demand that Congress enact price control and housing measures, repeal the Taft-Hartley law and safeguard civil liberties.

Marshall Perlin, 301 attorney, pointed out to the 301 Board meeting Monday night that the renewed attack on political minorities is intended to clear the way for putting over the Mundt Bill.

The Board voted to attend a meeting on the Mundt bill and civil liberties called for last night at the Van Curler Hotel by the Schenectady Committee for Democratic Rights. The Board urged that all members of 301 write their Congressman and U. S. Senators Robert Wagner and Irving Ives to demand that they vote against the Mundt Bill, against any legislation repressing civil liberties, and for price control.

301 Broadcast

The weekly radio broadcast of Local 301 is at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday over WSNY.

Pensioners to Meet

The UE-301 Pension Organization will meet at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the union hall.

Government Figures Show Profits, Not Wages, Push Prices Sky-High

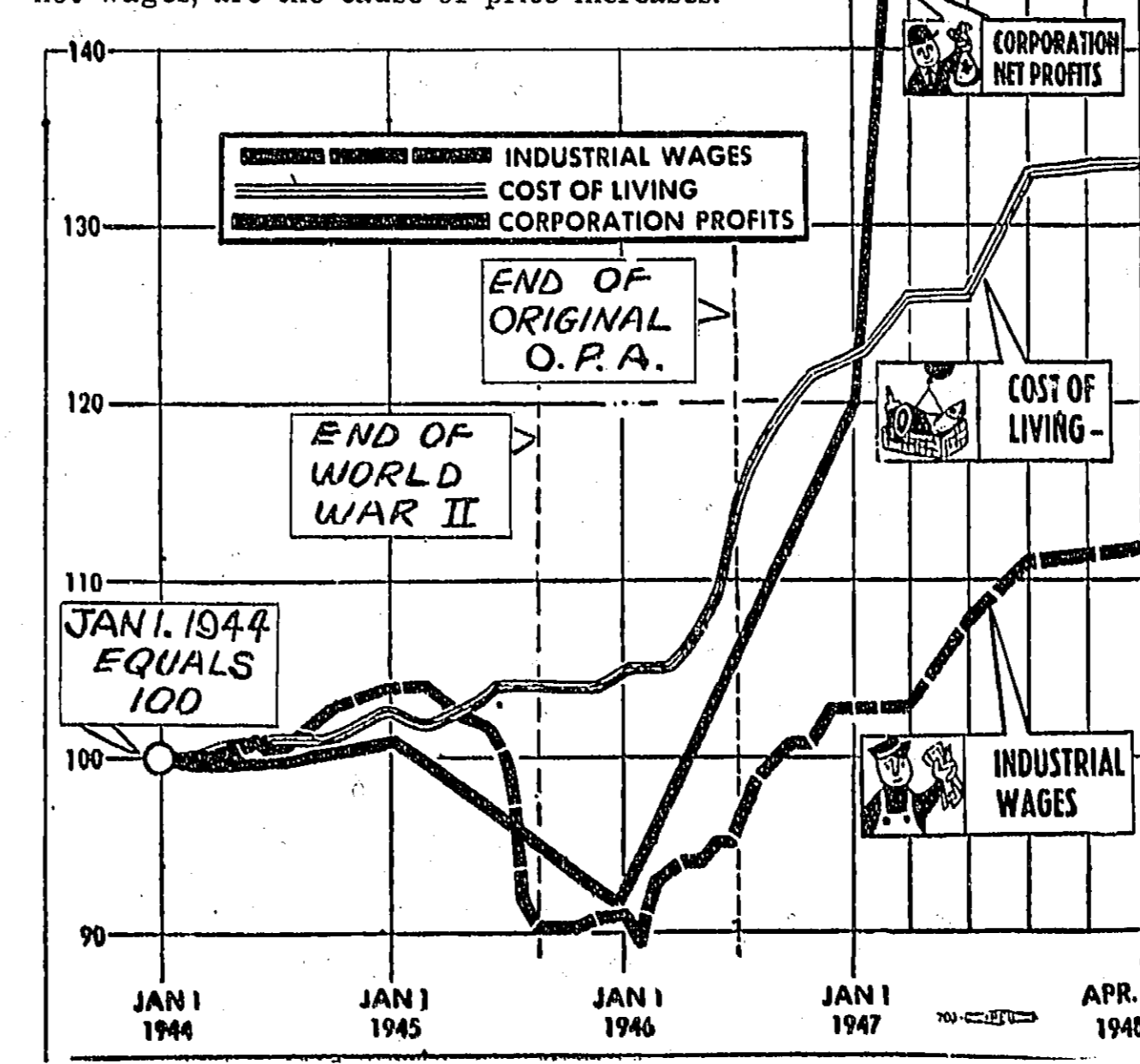
Below is a chart showing how industrial wages lagged behind both the cost of living and corporation profits (after taxes) from Jan. 1, 1944 to Apr. 1, 1948.

Prices are heading higher every day now. The Federal Reserve Board admitted recently that corporation profits during 1948 are "likely to be higher" than in 1947 when they broke all previous records. The GE record for the first six months of 1948 bears out that prediction.

The chart is based on figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U. S. Department of Commerce. A glance at the chart shows that the workers are sharing very little of the record-breaking profits of the corporations. The small wage increases industry has been forced to grant since April of this year will in no way change this picture.

You can see by the chart that in the period of over four years, from Jan. 1, 1944, to Apr. 1, 1948, wages rose only 14 per cent. This increase was from an average of \$45.29 a week to an average of \$51.51. But living standards have fallen because during that same period prices increased 36 per cent to a new all-time high. And in that same period corporation profits (after taxes) jumped 116 per cent, from an annual rate of 10 billion dollars to 21 billion, 600 million dollars.

These profits have come out of the high prices set by industry in the last two years. Notice how the profits and prices climbed after the end of O.P.A. The chart shows clearly that profits, not wages, are the cause of price increases.



Strike Threat Wins Fund for Inequities

Westinghouse Electric Company has agreed to set aside a fund totaling \$270,000 for reclassifying jobs in the Buffalo plant. On the strength of this settlement, members of UE Local 1581 called off a strike set for July 19. The member-

ship okayed the agreement the morning the strike was to take place.

About \$70,000 of the fund has already been spent on reclassifications following an agreement reached on a national level Apr. 22. However, the Buffalo workers felt the company was stalling in adjusting many inequities and voted to strike to force a settlement.

Resolution of 301 On Foreign Policy

The following resolution on foreign policy was adopted by the 301 membership and stewards' meeting last week for introduction at the national UE convention:

"The so-called bi-partisan foreign policy today affects the income and living standards and the lives of every American. It is being expressed in a government program of huge expenditures for armaments and for payments to foreign governments. This program is resulting right now in skyrocketing prices. Even its strongest backers recognize that it will mean still further price increases, and before long heavy taxes on the whole people. It will of course guarantee new record profits for the big corporations, paid for by higher taxes taken each week out of the pay checks of the working people.

"This policy is said to be carried out for the defense of American democracy against Russian aggression. Actually it is beginning to destroy American democracy and living standards, for the Taft-Hartley law and the Mundt bill are part and parcel of the war drive.

"This foreign policy is contrary to the interests of the American people, regardless of how they may feel about the Russians or their form of government.

"The explanation for our disastrous foreign policy was given last year by the 12th convention of UE, when it pointed out that since the death of President Roosevelt, the government had fallen under the control of Big Business. Wall Street bankers dominate the cabinet. Foreign policy is made by these bankers, and by the bi-partisan senators and congressmen who enacted the Taft-Hartley law, and the administration which uses it viciously to break one strike after another. Naturally their policy can no more be democratic abroad than it can be at home.

"Behind a cover of flag-waving there are many who support as American the profit-grabbing, undemocratic acts of the same Big Business forces that try to destroy unions at home. We will not join in that hypocrisy. The foreign policy of the James Forrestals and other Wall Street bankers serves to take over foreign markets and oil fields for their greater profits. It is real patriotism to recognize that this policy hurts the American people.

"The mouthpieces of Big Business—the same press and radio that

drove to kill price control and pass the Taft-Hartley law—are putting over the war and re-armament drive by the same red-baiting methods on the international field as they use at home. The labor movements of France, Italy, China, Greece and other countries are called Russian agents and built up into a threat of "Russian aggression" because they happen to have different social and political views from those prevailing in this country.

"While our foreign policy is sold to the people as a defense of democracy, it is being carried out in the rebuilding of the Nazi trusts in Germany, the backing of reactionary governments, and the betrayal of the Jewish people to the oil trusts, even while these oil trusts rob the American taxpayers on oil sold to the Navy. And now it is proposed that our tax money be used to guarantee dollar payments of profits reaped by Wall Street trusts in foreign markets.

"For the sake of our standards of living, of our democratic American liberties, and for the lasting welfare of our country, we must fight for the return of our foreign policy and of our government to the hands of the people."

Westinghouse Agrees To Rehire Two Men

Westinghouse Electric Company has agreed to put back to work in the South Philadelphia plant two men whose recent dismissal caused a complete work stoppage for 26 hours. The two had been fired after the Navy announced it didn't want them to continue on "classified jobs", on the grounds they were "poor security risks".

UE members at the plant walked off their jobs immediately in protest against this violation of the contract and of civil rights. After meeting with a union committee, management decided to reinstate the two men. They are to be placed on "non-classified" jobs for the present.

The company assured the union it will review with the Navy the whole subject of government procedure in such dismissals. As in many other cases around the country, the government agency made no specific charges and made no effort to back up its "poor security risk" claims. The company told the union it was not informed by the Navy of the basis for the charges.

A joint statement by the Westinghouse management and UE Local 107 declared that if a similar case should occur, they "will attempt to develop a procedure whereby such cases may be processed in a more orderly manner."