

EQUALITY FOR ALL. This is the slogan under which the local fair employment practices committee is working to end all discrimination in pay and in hiring at the Schenectady GE works. Pictured above are John Saccocio and Wayman Lewis, who were elected as chairman and secretary of the committee at an organizational meeting last week.

FEP Group Maps 1953 Drive To End GE's Discrimination

A program to end discrimination against workers on account of color, nationality or sex was outlined by the UE Local 301 fair employment practices committee at its 1953 organizational meeting last week. The FEP committee elected John Saccocio, Building 52, as chairman and Wayman Lewis, 52, as secretary.

Chief aim of the committee, as set forth in its preliminary program, is to make its services available to any worker in the Schenectady GE works who feels he is being discriminated against. The committee also plans to make every effort to see that Negro workers are given an equal opportunity in hiring and upgrading.

Pointing to the need for wide education on the importance of the fight against discrimination, the committee drew up a program designed to acquaint the union membership with the need to make the fight against discrimination in order to protect the wages, job security and working conditions of all workers in the plant.

Another plan made by the committee was to invite Ernest Thompson, secretary of UE's national FEP committee to Schenectady to

UE Wins New Shop

UE overwhelmingly won bargaining rights for the workers of the Victor Safe and Equipment Co. in North Tonawanda, N. Y., as the result of an NLRB election Wednesday. There was only one "no union" vote cast against the union.

Victor Safe is a dummy corporation set up by Remington Rand. UE has the bargaining rights for the big Rem Rand plant in North Tonawanda.

301 Delegation To Press N. Y. Legislative Program

UE Local 301 will send a special committee to Albany Wednesday to work for passage of 3 union-sponsored measures to improve workmen's compensation, and to testify for

Urge Final McCarran Repeal Petition Push

Local 301 stewards were urged this week to clean up the McCarran-Walter immigration law repeal petition campaign this week so that the thousands of signatures collected up to now could be sent to the two U. S. Senators from New York, Herbert Lehman and Irving Ives, and to Rep. Bernard Kearney.

The petition drive has been on for more than a month during which UE's demand for repeal of the vicious law drew wide support from Schenectady religious and community leaders.

Opposition to the McCarran-Walter law has been growing throughout the country with almost all national labor organizations joining with religious and nationality groups in the fight for repeal. The law is a vicious act which discriminates against many national groups, and is pointedly anti-labor. Many persons, including ex-President Truman, have denounced it as being very close to a regular basis once every 2 weeks.

discuss methods of tying the 301 campaign with the drives being conducted by locals throughout the country.

The committee plans to meet on a regular basis once every 2 weeks.

Question and Answer Corner

Every day in the shops, stewards and other active union members are approached by some of their fellow workers and asked questions about our union, UE. Some of these questions keep popping up over and over again. For this reason, the EU News has decided to launch this new feature in which some of the most common inquiries are put down, together with what we feel are honest and complete replies.

Question: UE has again proposed joint action against the company by all unions with bargaining rights in the chain. When we made a similar proposal last year, Carey of the IUE-CCIO used it as an excuse for a vicious, red-baiting attack on our union. In view of this, why do we again call for joint action?

Answer: The position of UE has always been that the main fight for better wages and working conditions must always be against the company. Almost all of the major benefits in our contract were won before the Carey-led split in 1949.

Since then, all GE workers, regardless of affiliation, have suffered from the company's ability to play one union off against another. For this reason, it is important that the rank and file of all unions in the chain understand the importance of united action. The purpose of the latest UE call for such action is to make the members of others unions aware of the situation and to rally them for a united fight against the company and for better wages and working conditions.

Question: How can anyone who has signed a non-Communist affidavit be framed when the affidavits stated the truth?

Answer: History has shown that by the use of perjurers, criminal characters and professional stool-pigeons, frameups have been concocted against unionists by employers. The Harry Bridges case is a good example of this, as is the

for passage of the Ostrander amendment to protect public hunting and fishing preserves.

The committee will be set up by the union's legislative sub-committee, which is under the chairmanship of Bill Stewart, Building 273. Members of the group will visit the 2 Schenectady legislators, State Sen. Thomas Campbell and Assemblyman Oswald Heck, to urge them to make an all-out effort to secure passage of the pro-union legislation.

The compensation bills all have been introduced into the legislature. They would increase maximum weekly payments from \$32 to \$40, provide payment for partial silicosis disability and for time lost at compensation hearings and medical examinations.

The Ostrander amendment is designed to prevent politicians from allowing private power companies to grab off lands in the Adirondack State Park. These lands belong to the people of the State, and the measure would require a vote of the people at election time before any of the lands could be sold.

Many UE locals, as well as other unions, have endorsed Ostrander amendment which must pass this legislature to have a chance of becoming law.

frameup of CIO packinghouse workers' leader Anthony Valentino on charges of falsely signing a non-Communist affidavit.

Question: Does the non-Communist affidavit refer only to membership in the Communist Party?

Answer: No. It also refers to vague "affiliation" with the Communist Party and "belief in or support of any organization that believes or teaches overthrow of the government." This vagueness is deliberately put into the Taft-Hartley law to open the door for all sorts of frameups. It should be remembered that throughout the history of the labor movement, big corporations and their agents in the government have regarded the very organization of unions as "conspiratorial," and all too often, they have sought to make loyalty to the country mean loyalty to the corporations with low wages and sweatshop working conditions.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA UE LOCAL 301

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Waterloo, Iowa—Workers at the Iowa Public Service Co. have given UE Local 209F a one-sided vote of confidence in an NLRB election. UE received 57 votes against a lone ballot for the AFL electricians.

Denver—Four top officers of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers have called on all of labor to "unite its ranks, first to prevent big business amendments to the Taft-Hartley law, and then to repeal outright the law." Mine-Mill's leaders cited current attempts to ban industrywide bargaining as proof that T-H was setting the standards for new and even more vicious legislation. "Franklin D. Roosevelt was right in linking the Wagner Act with the Bill of Rights," the union officers asserted.

Los Angeles—Westinghouse was accused this week of attempting to do away with seniority rights for workers in 4 Pacific Coast plants, those in Seattle, Los Angeles, Emeryville, Cal. and Sunnyvale Cal. The corporation was reported by UE International Representative Bill Elconin to be launching the drive against plantwide seniority at the new Sunnyvale factory by attempting to write a local supplement making unit seniority the rule.

Trenton, N. J.—GE has shut down its plant here and moved all operations to Louisville. The company's action cost 1,100 workers, represented by the IUE-CIO, their jobs. GE had promised the workers in Trenton that they would be compensated in case of a plant shutdown. However, when the actual closing took place, the company renege on this promise.

Peoria, Ill.—Employees of the Ever Furnace Co. will receive 12¢ per hour on their paychecks as the result of a new agreement negotiated by UE Local 135F.

York, Pa.—Women members of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union staged a 2-day sit-down strike last week in an effort to bolster their demands for better piece work rates.

UE Makes Economic Reopener Demands As Support Grows for United Pay Fight

UE's national negotiating committee served notice on GE this week that the union is determined to win real wage increases for General Electric workers in 1953. The committee presented management with a 3-point economic package demand as wage reopener talks began in New York City yesterday.

BULLETIN!

UE Local 301's delegation to Albany visited with Sen. Thomas Campbell and Assemblyman Oswald Heck Wednesday afternoon and received promises from both legislators that they would fully support the union-backed measure to provide compensation for partial silicosis disability. They also pledged careful consideration of the union's position on measures for improving workmen's compensation and unemployment insurance benefits, particularly on the bill to raise maximum weekly benefits from \$32 and \$30 a week. Heck agreed, "You can't go far on \$30 a week these days."

The story below was written before the actual meeting with Campbell and Heck.

301 Group Works For Albany Bills

A special 3-member committee from UE Local 301 went to Albany Wednesday to muster support for union-backed measures to improve workmen's compensation and unemployment insurance laws, and to testify on behalf of a bill to protect public hunting and fishing preserves in the Adirondacks.

Local 301's "lobby" was headed by William Stewart, 273, chairman of the union's legislative sub-committee. Also in the group were Peter Pisano, 77, and Henry Burke, 273. Pisano is chairman of the Schenectady 9th ward Democratic club, and Burke is Republican supervisor in the same ward.

First job of the committee was a visit, to 2 Schenectady legislators, Sen. Thomas Campbell and Assemblyman Oswald Heck. Heck, as speaker of the assembly, is considered to be the one man capable of mobilizing the greatest strength behind the UE-supported measures.

The important conservation measure advocated by the local is the Ostrander amendment. This constitutional change would require public review of the sale of any state lands to private interests. It is designed to prevent politicians from selling the already limited public recreational facilities to greedy private power interests.

The package included:

- A General wage increase.
- Payment in time or money for the 2 1953 holidays which fall on Saturdays.
- Special wage increase for skilled workers and women, and to end all geographical discrimination.

The reopener demands were framed as a part of an overall program for the year. This program will be expanded in the September contract negotiations to include pensions, insurance, day workers rates and other important pact issues.

The union's negotiating committee, which includes Local 301 Business Agent Leo Jandreau, made it clear that, with the wage freeze off, the company could have no excuse for not granting UE's demands which are based on the real needs of the workers and on the tremendous profits made by the company from the ever increasing productivity of GE employees.

Of particular importance during these talks is the demand for payment for the Saturday holidays, Decoration Day and July 4. The union takes the position that if the company is unwilling to grant the holidays directly, it must make up for it through an equivalent special wage increase.

The demand for the skilled workers is based on findings of a special U. S. government panel last year. The panel recommended big

pay hikes for craftsmen to restore their traditional position at the top of the national wage scale. The companies have sought to keep skilled workers' pay down in order to put a low ceiling on the wages of all workers.

UE is also fighting for an end to discrimination in pay against women workers. As a 1st step toward this, the union is determined to establish the right of every woman worker to receive wages no lower than those paid to common labor.

In fighting against geographical discrimination, UE is also taking a position on behalf of all workers in the GE chain. As long as the company is able to get away with paying starvation wages in unorganized areas of the South, it will continue to move more and more jobs away from northern plants.

As the negotiations opened in New York, UE was busy bolstering support for a united wage fight against the company in GE plants throughout the country. This campaign is featured by leaflet distributions at plants where other unions have bargaining rights. These leaflets explain the importance of united action regardless of union affiliation in order to gain benefits for all workers.

The union's call for unity was reported to be getting a warm response from rank and file members of the IUE-CIO and of the AFL and independent unions.



STEWARDS TAKE OATH. Five new shop stewards were sworn in at Monday's stewards' meeting. Pictured above are Ben Traczyk, Building 89; E. Bates, 23; and W. Kennedy, 23, who were sworn in at the meeting of the 1st and 3rd shifts. The stewards who took the oath at the afternoon 2nd shift session are pictured on page 3.

UE Observers Say T-H Repeal Remains as Labor's Top Task

UE legislative observers in Washington made it clear this week that the number one task which still faces the labor movement this year is full repeal of the Taft-Hartley law.

The union's Washington representatives emphasized this as they issued a summary of proposed labor legislation introduced in Congress so far this year.

In all, about 30 bills dealing with organized labor have been put forward. These measures range from the proposals of a few courageous congressmen to kill T-H and to bring back the Wagner Act, to bills by big business agents in both houses to destroy completely organized labor in the U. S.

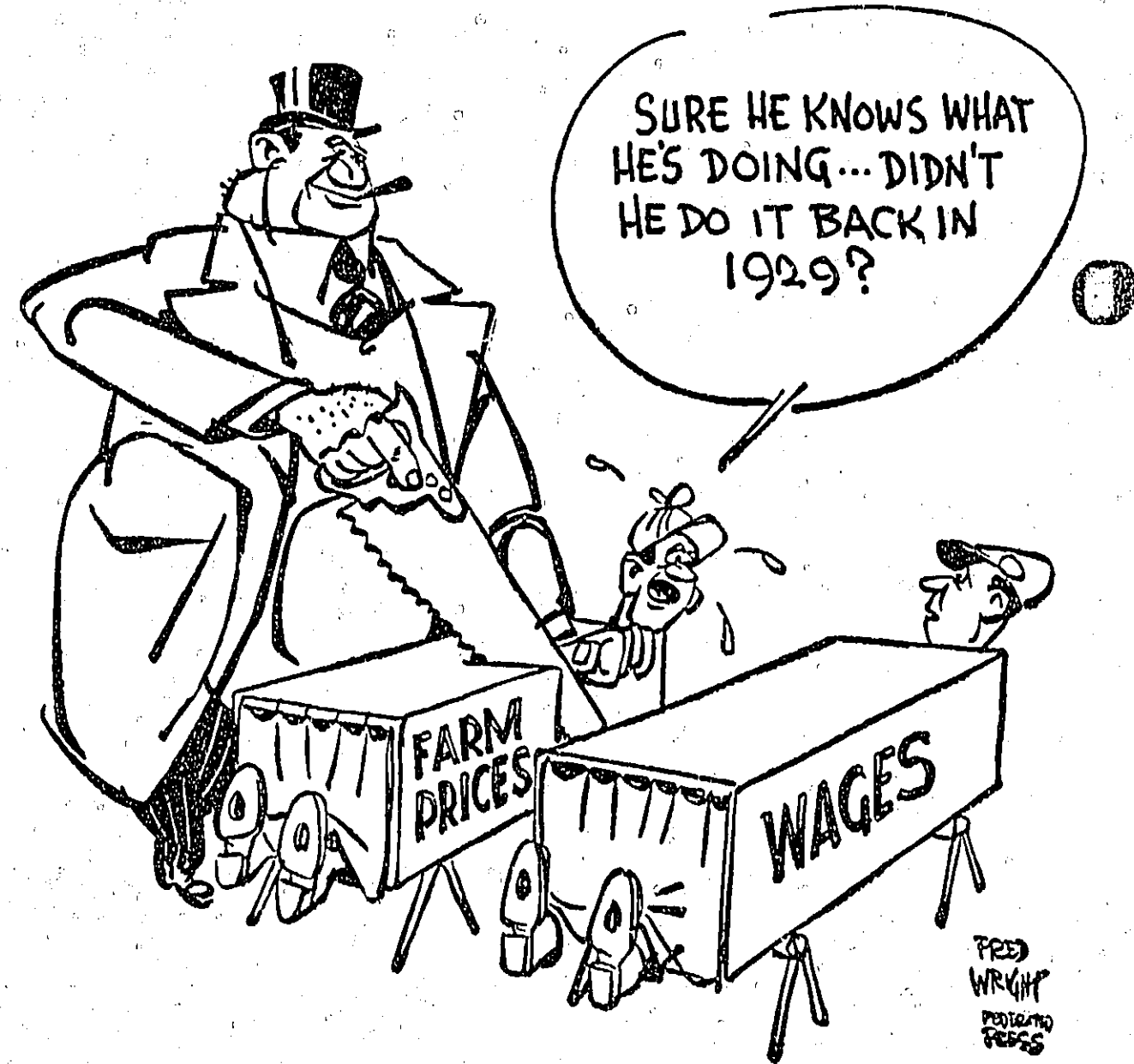
However, the pro-labor bills have received little publicity in the corporation-controlled press, and it is an unfortunate fact that organized labor has not gotten together for a united fight which could make passage of a Taft-Hartley repealer possible.

On the other hand, the National Association of Manufacturers has

marshalled all of its big guns behind the attempts to cripple all unions. The pet NAM bill is apparently the one introduced by Wingate Lucas, labor-hating representative from Texas. This proposal would ban industry-wide bargaining and in the words of Rep. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., it is:

"A bill that would pulverize the American trade union movement into a hundred thousand plants and company fragments, each operating in enforced isolation."

Roosevelt further pointed out that the Lucas bill, by outlawing the right of a national union to bargain for workers in 2 competing corporations in one industry (such as GE and Westinghouse), would make it illegal for unions to "advise or participate even in local plant or company negotiations."



Thousands of grievances are handled by UE Local 301 each year at all levels from the steward up to final appeal in New York City. To keep members posted, we shall each week list some of the grievances that have not been settled at the steward-foreman level and have been referred to the executive board-management level.



Bldg. 10: William Haverly is a piece worker who was told to take a day work job. He requested a lack of work pass but was refused this by his foreman. The union demands that Haverly get the treatment to which he is entitled under the contract.

Bldg. 11: Rotor stackers on 2nd shift have lost considerable time due to lack of work. Some of the stackers have been loaned out to Bldg. 60 where they are working 11½ hours a day and Saturdays. This work should be equally distributed, and the union demands such equal distribution.

Bldg. 12: Edward Girard and Gordon Vincent are piece workers. When they run short of work, Foreman Gardiner takes the position that available work on the floor belongs to the 1st shift, and that these operators can not do it. As a result, they are forced to suffer loss of earnings. The union demands that sufficient work be issued to the 2nd shift workers, or that the forces be reduced so as to provide full time employment for the group.

Bldg. 15: Job 9850926-Gr. 1 has 3 operations with an overall price of \$6.75. It is too heavy for a woman to handle and should be issued to a man. The union demands that this be done.

Bldg. 16: P. Florio protests the loss in earnings he is suffering because of lack of work brought about by supervisor's adding of workers to the group. The union demands that management correct this situation.

In the past few weeks, inspectors have not been brought in on Sundays although all 3 shifts of production workers have been work-

ing, with foremen and operators doing the inspection. The union demands that the company bring the inspectors in for overtime work on the same basis as other employees.

Bldg. 17: Edward Gagnon is classified as a B lathe operator. He has had this classification since 3/10/52, when he was upgraded from C. However, his rate adjustment did not come until 7/14. The union demands retroactive pay between these 2 dates, and a further merit increase for Gagnon based on his excellent performance.

Charles L. St. Onge is classified as a B surface grinder operator, but his work is strictly in the A classification. He got his B classification on 6/2/52, but his rate wasn't increased until 10/6. The union demands immediate reclassification to A and a retroactive pay adjustment for the period from 6/2 to 10/6.

Bldg. 19: Andrew C. Nordlund has worked only 3 Saturdays in 1953, while the 3rd shift operator on the job has worked every Saturday. The union demands an end to this discrimination and an equal distribution of overtime.

Group under Foreman Maliszewski demands equal distribution of overtime on punch press operations.

Bldg. 46: Ralph Fischer requested extra work payment on a job in which excessive stock required a rough and finish grind. Planning calls for extra stock, but the foreman refuses payment of extra work. He has indicated willingness to pay only the inadequate table price. The union demands the proper extra work payment.

Cylindrical grinder operators have asked to see the method card

furnishing speeds and feeds required by planning department. However, Foreman Hartman has refused to furnish such a card. As a result, the workers have no way of determining the time elements on each job. The union demands that they be furnished with a method card.

Bldg. 69: Group under Foreman Lawrence has observed him working frequently on jobs belonging to regular operators who do not have sufficient work. The union demands this practice be stopped.

Group under Foreman J. Begley protests the departure of supervision from the practice of issuing individual vouchers covering all operations. The union demands a return to the individual voucher system.

Bldg. 77: Past practice in 77 and 79 has been for 1st and 2nd shift material handlers to be assigned to supply necessary material for 3rd shift operations. This practice has now been abandoned, and the union demands that it be restored.

There is only one varnish maker on 3rd shift assigned to cover op-

erations in both 71 and 79. The job involves loading and cooking hazardous chemicals at temperatures of around 300° C. In case of an accident, the operator would be helpless. Therefore, the union demands elimination of this serious safety hazard by the assignment of an additional varnish maker to shift.

Bldg. 265: Group of water tenders have had additional duties and responsibilities, including those of turbine operators, assigned to them. Therefore, the union demands reevaluation of the jobs with proper rate increases.

Bldg. 269: The union demands clarification of the duties and classification of Marvin Smith. He is classified as a B hydrogen furnace operator, but supervision utilizes him on various assignments including setups, spray room work and other duties outside of his classification.

Piece workers under Foreman O'Brien and Roche protest their being removed from their jobs for monthly inventory without proper compensation. The union demands that, if they must leave their jobs, they be paid average earnings.

The company is using Armando Paoletti, H. S. Cornell and Michale Mongelo, classified as maintenance men, on production jobs outside of their classification. As a result, piece workers do not have enough work. The union demands an end to this practice.

Bldg. 273: Charles Brothers protests against the foreman's adjustment of feed on machine 72108 for work on roughing job 109B471. In this case, the foreman refused to pay for extra work although adjusted feed made it impossible to do the work on the machine, and it had to be done and paid for on another machine. Standard price on this job is \$6.96 a hundred, with a \$3.25 extra work payment. The union demands payment in accordance with these prices.

Sale of Giveaway Tix Highly Successful as Drawing Nears

UE Local 301 members have only one more week to get in on the chance to win 6 valuable prizes to be awarded in the union's giveaway drawing on March 16. Tickets on the \$350 worth of gifts continue to be sold at the low price of 3 for only 25c.

As the drawing, which is to be held at the regular March membership meeting, came closer, many workers apparently were stocking up on the giveaway tickets, and sales were booming. Among the prizes to be drawn for are:

1. A complete \$100 Easter outfit for either a man or woman.
2. A \$75 3-piece luggage set.
3. A \$50 case of assorted liquor.
4. A \$37.50 electric roaster.
5. A \$25 machinist's tool box.
6. A \$12.50 Shakespearian tool box.

In addition, \$5 will be given to each seller of a winning ticket. The sellers also receive several free chances out of every book they dispose of.

Indications are that this giveaway will be even more successful than last year's, when more than \$1,400 was netted for the local's activities program. This year, proceeds from the drawing will be used to help finance 5 big events planned by the activities committee. These events will include a spring anniversary dance, a baseball booster night, field day, a clambake and the union's annual Christmas party. Other events may be added if it is financially possible.

Ticket holders in the giveaway program will not have to be present at the actual drawing to be eligible to win any of the prizes.

Upgrades Won in Turbine

Three Class "C" Machinists-Machine Repair men have been upgraded in Turbine Division negotiations with top management of that Division at Step 2 of the Grievance procedure.

Meany Blasts T-H

AFL President George Meany this week called for changes in the Taft-Hartley law that are so sweeping that they would virtually amount to outright repeal of the slave labor act.

Testifying before the House labor committee, Meany called for the scrapping of almost every major provision of T-H. Meany's demands included:

The outlawing of strikebreaking injunctions; abolition of the non-communist oath, which he said reduces union members to the status of second class citizenship; legalization of closed shops and secondary boycotts; and the return of labor's right to make political contributions.



READY FOR ACTION. Guy Peterson, Building 109, and Charles Crolls, 273, are pictured as they took the oath of office as 2nd shift shop stewards Monday night. They joined the local's 630 committee men and women who protect the union contract for 19,500 Schenectady GE workers.

8,200-Member Midwest Local Votes To Quit IUE

IUE-CIO suffered a crushing blow in the Midwest last week when the largest local in the Illinois-Minnesota district of the union voted almost unanimously to secede and affiliate with the AFL teamsters.

The seceding group was Local

1145, which has 8,200 members employed by the Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator company. A special membership meeting voted the action with only 14 workers voting to remain loyal to CIO. An estimated 6,000 participated in the vote. The secession move was led by Robert Wishart, who was a national vice president of IUE, and head of the Hennepin County (Minneapolis) CIO council.

The Minneapolis-Honeywell move was not the only situation worrying IUE top leadership. Carey and his clique were also faced with the secession of another major local, the Warren, Pa. Sylvania workers. They voted to leave the CIO and join with the AFL machinists.

At the same time, salaried workers throughout the GE chain were showing their disgust with Carey's neglect of their problems by leaving IUE. The exodus started 2 months ago when 1,200 Erie GE office employees voted overwhelmingly to return to UE, and to reunite with Erie production and maintenance workers.

In Elmira, N. Y., where production and maintenance workers are also represented by UE, the small office force has quit IUE, and the CIO union has been decertified there. Similar decertification moves have been started by IUE salaried workers at GE plants in Fort Wayne and Decatur, Indiana.

Steel workers, copper and brass workers, coal miners, electrical workers, communications workers, aircraft workers, radio workers, oil workers, longshoremen, zinc workers, ship builders and maritime workers.

There can be no question that if the unions agree on a program of united action for all of these groups major gains can be won. However, only a united program is likely to bring anything more than company handouts.

Because of the possibilities of a united fight, it can be expected that the big corporation interests which control Congress will intensify their attacks on the entire labor movement. These attacks will be aimed at further splitting the working people and at blocking all moves toward unity.

Another GE Million

General Electric made \$1-million in extra profits from sex discrimination in the Euclid Lamp shop in Cleveland alone, a survey by UE Local 707 has revealed. The survey was based on a comparison of unskilled labor rates for men and women's rates in the GE bulb factory.

Labor Could Win Major Gains In '53 Contract Negotiations

With the wage freeze abandoned and contract negotiations on tap in nearly every major industry, the American labor movement has an opportunity to make 1953 a year of

major gains for working men and women. In fact, a program of united actions by the unions could make this the 1st year since 1946 in which the workers improve their living standards rather than just barely keeping up with rising living costs.

In the electrical industry, wage reopeners talks with both GE and Westinghouse will take place in the next 2 months. In addition, full contract negotiations are slated for the fall.

Clothing workers in a large part of the country are already in negotiations, as are rubber and textile employees. Auto workers have gotten a reopening of the 5-year contract at General Motors, and it is likely that similar breaks will be made with the other big corporations.

However, the summer and fall months appear to be the crucial period during which a united labor fight would pack the hardest punch. The following groups will have negotiations between June and September:

Steel workers, copper and brass workers, coal miners, electrical workers, communications workers, aircraft workers, radio workers, oil workers, longshoremen, zinc workers, ship builders and maritime workers.

LOCAL 301 UER & MWA

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

2nd SHIFT

Mon., Mar. 16, 1953 - 1:00 P.M.

(Before Work)

1st and 3rd SHIFTS

Mon., Mar. 16, 1953 - 7:30 P.M.

LOCAL 301 HALL

REPORT OF WAGE NEGOTIATIONS
RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD
REPORT OF COMMITTEES
REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS
EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL 301 UE