

Farm Equipment Workers Plan 'Save Our Job' Campaign

Layoffs continued unabated in the farm implement industry as the unions in the stricken plants began developing new "save our jobs" programs.

An additional 2,000 workers were laid off the week of Oct. 26 by the Caterpillar Tractor Co. at its Peoria plant.

The International Harvester Co. announced that 19 of its 21 plants will be shut down for what is called "inventory." Some 40,000 workers still employed in these plants will be out of work for a period of two weeks and possibly longer.

Harvester has already laid off 15,000 workers in its Illinois plants, according to the United Auto Workers (CIO).

The UAW will deal with the Harvester unemployment situation at a conference in Washington Dec. 6-7, which has been called to review the job crisis that has taken a huge toll among UAW members.

The United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers, which represents workers in 10 Harvester plants, announced a delegation would be in Washington Oct. 28-29 to demand action by various government departments.

The farm equipment workers were planning visits to the State Dept., Agriculture Dept. and Interior Dept. to present the UAW's anti-depression program. Highlights of that program include: Government aid to farmers in the purchase of farm machinery, launching a program of road-building and public works, and opening of trade with countries which are potential markets for farm implements.

Bldg. 269 Steward Wins Case

Through the efforts of Shop Steward Edward Knack, Bldg. 269, one of our members is \$97.00 richer as a result of taking his case up through the Union.

S. Stage, a set-up man in the Electronic Tube Department, has not been receiving the proper rate for the work he is required to do. He brought it to the attention of the shop steward who contacted the foreman. His rate was increased 7½¢ an hour to the job rate with a retroactive adjustment.

ASK YOUR SHOP STEWARD ABOUT U.E. LOCAL 301 OPTICAL PLAN



U.E. Local 301 Team Wins Pennant

U.E. Local 301 Team wins pennant in Bellevue Little League.

Joe Alois, Vice-President of U.E. Local 301, received the trophy on behalf of U.E. Local 301. It was presented by Dan Nicholas, president of the Bellevue Little League at a banquet held Sunday, October 25th, at the Town Tavern.

U.E. Local 301 sponsored two teams in the Little Leagues this year, the second team winning second place in the Northside League. The trophy will be on display at 301 Headquarters.

Airport Steward Wins Case

Edward Baranuskas, Shop Steward at the G.E. Airport, can be credited for winning increases affecting several mechanics as a result of filing a grievance for an upgrade for one of the Class "C" Mechanics.

While the case was filed on L. Kaminski to upgrade him from Class "C" to Class "B", the investigation showed that four others were entitled to the same consideration.

Veterans Entitled to Education and Training At Government Expense

Veterans who have the following qualifications can look to the Government for education and training:

Eligibility—Eligibility requirements include: (1) active military or naval service at any time between June 27, 1950, and a date yet to be established either by Presidential Proclamation or by a concurrent resolution of Congress; (2) at least 90 days of total service, or a discharge for disability incurred on active duty if the service was for less than 90 days; (3) a discharge under other than dishonorable conditions. All three conditions must be met.

Subsistence Allowances—Veterans will receive an education and training allowance each month from the Government to meet part of the expenses of their training and living costs.

Cash Payments to Injured 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 to see, 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

Less Than \$2,000 Income for 23% Of Families in '50

The Commerce Dept. published figures on income of U. S. consumer units, consisting of families and "unattached individuals," which show that 23% of these units received less than \$2,000 in gross income in 1950. Since much of the income was subject to taxes, the actual spending power of these units was even lower.

Two-thirds of the total before-tax income of \$217 billion went to units which received more than the national average income of \$4,460. The 6% of total spending units which received incomes of \$10,000 or over got more than 20% of the total income. The 23% of total family units which received less than \$2,000 each got a total of only 5% of the national income. The top 20% of family groups, graded by size of income, got 46% of the income.

The Census Bureau published figures showing the average income of all persons over 14 who received any income in 1952 was \$2,300, about \$100 higher than in 1951. The average income of men was \$3,250, an increase of \$150 over the previous year. The proportion of men with incomes of \$5,000 or more rose from 14% to 16%.

The average income for women in 1952 was \$1,147, an increase of \$100 above 1951.

The average income for persons in cities and in the country, but not on farms was \$2,472 in 1952. The average for farm dwellers was \$1,114.

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

Since the maximum award for any worker is \$32.00 per week, the worker who loses an arm receives 312 times \$32 or \$9,984.00. 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 \$4,992.00.

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 \$32.00 a week or \$656.00, 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 \$32 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.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA U.E. LOCAL 301

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SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

Friday, November 6, 1953

Shop Stewards Sworn in at Nov. 2nd Meeting



Stewards sworn in were: Donald Oliver, Francisco Campisi, Bldg. 69; Harold West, Bldg. 22; Leon Smith, Bldg. 273; George De Cresce, Bldg. 28; Robert Templeton, Bldg. 60-W.

Steamfitters' Have Group Seniority

The Steamfitters, who have their own bargaining unit, can apply their seniority to their unit only.

Some reduction of forces have affected workers who are members of the Steamfitters' Union. They are not permitted under our contract to apply their service against any jobs covered by the U.E. contract; therefore, some workers having long service with the Company may find themselves unemployed. This applies to any employees in the Schenectady plant who are in a bargaining unit not certified to U.E. Local 301.

In the past, when we had only one Union in Schenectady, all employees regardless of where they worked could apply their seniority rights on a plant-wide basis. Now that certain groups have chosen to have a separate Union, their seniority is confined to the jurisdiction of that Union.

Bldg. 17 Steward Wins Case

Shop Steward Robert Northrup, who represents the members under Foreman Maliszewski in Bldg. 17, processed a grievance requesting an increase in job rate for Set Up Index Punch Press Operators working on circular and segmental punchings. The job rate was increased from \$1.785 to \$1.85 an hour.

NOTICE:

Meeting of Executive Board

Monday, Nov. 9, 7:30 P.M.

Union Headquarters

Schenectady and Lynn Turbine Unite

Plans are under way for closer working relationship between the Turbine workers in Schenectady and Lynn.

The Schenectady and Lynn plants are expected to do most of the Turbine work for the G.E. Company. There will be an interchange of work between the plants, depending on certain production requirements; therefore, the U.E. 201 Lynn representatives and the Schenectady leaders are planning a program to have an interchange of information on job rates, prices and working conditions.

Lynn Turbine workers are preparing a series of questions seeking information on Schenectady standards. A meeting is scheduled in Lynn for Sunday, November 15, of Lynn Turbine workers who will meet with a delegation from Schenectady Turbine for an exchange of information.

With the Schenectady and Lynn Turbine workers, united, there will be little chance of one being pitted against the other.

Foreman Awarded Prize of the Week

Foreman S. McNally, Bldg. 273, Turbine Division, cops this week's scallions as the prize of the week for his outstanding efforts in double talk.

It seems that Foreman McNally assigned a job of removing some covers to Brother P. Mullins. It was pointed out that from the standpoint of both safety and efficiency the job should have been done with a chipping hammer instead of by hand with chisel and hammer. In addition to a written grievance regarding the efficiency and safety involved, he didn't even bother to mention the efficiency angle apparently oblivious of the fact that Progress is G.E.'s most important product. Supervision on the same job, 2nd shift, must have had some instructions in the matter, however, since they assigned the same job to be done with a chipping hammer. Now in the matter of safety, he further stated, quote "Normally, this same job is performed every day by other people working under the same conditions. The only difference being in the tools used", end of quote. Of course, the tools used made the whole difference in this case but that was his answer regardless.

Anyone finding a foreman who will top this double talk and put it in writing should send in the name so that it can be acknowledged. Otherwise, the price is Foreman McNally's.

Send Information On Employment To Mayor Wemple

The Union office has sent Mayor Wemple information on the jobs that have been transferred from Schenectady and also details on other future plans of the Company to transfer work.

The Mayor agreed with a Union committee on Tuesday of last week to investigate the transfer of work from Schenectady as a result of the Company's decentralization plan.

Ralph Cordiner, President of G.E., claimed in a speech to the Chamber of Commerce here on October 6th that the Schenectady plant would gradually be reduced in employment to pre-Korea levels.

Mr. Stevens in a letter to the Union last week claimed the layoffs would not be serious; in fact, he did not contemplate more than 500 to be affected by temporary layoffs between now and the first of the year.

Some jobs not affecting large numbers of employees have been transferred from Schenectady during the past 12 months, such as the cable work, Special Metals, and some vacuum tube work. Most all employees were absorbed in other departments. Some future plans involve the T.G. Assembly in Aeronautics and the Lighthouse Tubes in Electronics and also part of the Control Division. The Union points out that with the normal reduction of work taking effect, which requires some layoff and a considerable amount of transferring, we cannot afford to have any transferring of work away on top of it.

Overtime has been cut drastically and some rotation has started in some departments on certain jobs.

The local office of the New York State Employment Service has claimed that applications for Unemployment Insurance have increased. The Union is watching this whole situation very closely.

Bldg. 40 Steward Wins Case

As a result of Shop Steward Dominick Palmer, who works under Foreman Wukits in Bldg. 40, processing a complaint for the group working on stack, rotor punching, the A.E.R. was increased from \$1.785 to \$1.85.

Injured Workers Do Not Lose Compensation Protection When Case Is Closed

In the last issue of this paper an explanation was given as to how and when cash settlements are given to injured workers who suffer accidents involving the parts of the body listed in that article. Workers who have other types of injuries, such as injuries to their backs ordinarily do not receive cash settlements but are protected in other ways which will be explained in future articles.

However, when a compensation case has been completed in Compensation Court and the case is "closed", even though the worker has been paid a cash settlement, this does not mean that the worker loses his right to make any further claims which may arise out of the same accident.

The worker who has been injured or who has an "occupational" disease is protected for 18 years after the occurrence. Although the case may have been initially closed, the worker can have his case reopened if he can show through a medical certificate that his condition has become worse since the time his case was closed.

In order to have such a case reopened, the worker should inform his doctor that the condition came from an accident and that his compensation case has been closed. Most doctors know that in such cases they must file a medical report known as a C-27. The doctors usually have these forms in their offices. If the case was previously handled by the Union's lawyer, it is advisable to notify the Union's lawyer so that he can prepare the case for further court hearings.

Usually, there are two possible claims that an injured worker may have when seeking to reopen a closed case. The first may be that his condition again requires medical treatment after a period when such treatment was not necessary. The second may be that, in addition to the need for such treatment, the worker is again losing time from work or is earning less wages because of pain. In such cases, there will usually be no difficulty in getting the medical care at the Company's expense or of getting reimbursement for lost time or reduced earnings. On the other hand, the lawyer's help is of great importance where it is not perfectly obvious that the new trouble comes directly from the old accident and it becomes necessary to prove that fact. The lawyer's help is also of importance, where the accident took place more than 7 years before reopening the case because after 7 years it is usually not the Company but an organization known as the "Special Fund"

which has to meet the new obligations and proceedings which involve the Special Fund are invariably complicated and take a long time to iron out.

Injured workers, who are members of the Union, should always consult the Union's lawyer if they want help in reopening a "closed" compensation case.

U.E. 301 Pensioners Hold Meeting

The U.E. Local 301 Pension Club held their regular monthly meeting at Union Headquarters last Wednesday.

President Albert Van Der Zee reported that he had received letters from the Erie G.E. pensioners notifying him that they in Erie had met with their Congressman regarding more liberal Social Security. Also, they were interested in having a joint meeting of pensioners representing Schenectady, Erie and Lynn. Arrangements for such a meeting is presently under way.

The officers of the U.E. Local 301 Pension Club reported that their membership is growing larger. They are in the process of working out their program for 1954.

ASK YOUR STEWARD ABOUT U.E. LOCAL 301 OPTICAL PLAN



Bldg. 47: J. Coblish is complaining about the rate of his job. He is classified as a Stockkeeper at \$1.92½ an hour. He claims his duties entitle him to an increase.

Airport: L. Killinski is classified as a Mechanic, Class "C". He claims the work he is required to do justifies an upgrade to Class "B".

Bldg. 84: The transportation group is complaining about certain departments doing their work on Saturdays. They request the work be given to their department.

CART: The group of Laborers under Foreman O'Brien are complaining about their present classification. They claim their duties justify a higher classification.

CART: The Accumulators under Foreman Metcalf are complaining about the refusal to upgrade them into existing openings.

CART: The Assemblers under Foreman O'Brien are requesting a change in classification to justify the work they are required to do.

Bldg. 269: O. Oliver is classified as a Class "B" Exhaust Operator.



Ives Appointed Chairman Of Labor Subcommittee

Chairman H. Alexander Smith (R., N.J.) of the Senate labor committee Oct. 29 appointed Sen. Irving M. Ives (R., N.Y.) head of the group's subcommittee on labor legislation, a post held by Sen. Robert A. Taft (R., O.) until his death. Smith is planning a trip abroad. "Since there is still much pre-session work being done on proposed amendments to the Taft-Hartley act," he said, "I feel someone should be in charge while I am away."

1 in 50 Holds Two Jobs

Two or more jobs at the same time are held by 1 out of every 50 workers in the Detroit area, according to state employment officers.

Known as moonlighters in the UAW-CIO, they are regarded as a menace to full employment for the union. Men holding down more than one job say they have to get by at present straight time rates. Those who have only one job, they add, usually get lots of overtime.

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.

He is requesting a Class "A" classification to justify the work he is obliged to do.

Bldg. 273: T. McCabe, a Class "B" Inspector, working under Foreman Hamilton, requests more help on the job if the supervision experts to meet their production schedule.

Bldg. 69: The group working under Foreman Jones are complaining because a group leader is being used to do work that normally is done by a production operator.

Bldg. 40-B: The group working under Foreman Wukits are com-

plaining about his refusal to grant a price resulting from a time study.

Bldg. 269: P. Marotta, a Plater working under Foreman Woodruff, is complaining that he cannot make his regular earnings since part of his job has been transferred. He requests an adjustment in prices.

Bldg. 269: R. Hallenbeck is classified as Repair Shop Equipment Class "B" and is working under Foreman Kehrer. He is requesting the full rate for this job classification.

Bldg. 49: The group working under Foreman Pareene are requesting adequate porter service on the second shift. They claim the check on the floor create a safety hazard.

Bldg. 273: H. Lauritano is complaining about a transfer causing a loss of earnings. The transfer was made in violation of the contract.

Bldg. 16: T. Honsaker, a mill operator working under Foreman Grossen, is complaining about a warning notice by the foreman because of faulty equipment.



Washington — Figures released by the Labor Department Bureau of Employment Security reveal that initial claims for unemployment compensation increased steadily during the six straight weeks preceding Oct. 10.

New York—Charges that the new bi-state waterfront control law, requiring registration of dockworkers by Dec. 1, is a "page out of Hitler's book", drew stormy applause from members of the AFL-ousted Longshoremen's Assn. at a rally here.

Chicago—Layoffs continued unabated in the farm implement industry as the unions in the stricken plants began developing "save our jobs" programs.

San Francisco—The California supreme court affirmed the ruling of lower and appellate courts, ordering the San Francisco Housing Authority to open its public housing projects to all eligible tenants without regard to race.

Washington — Acting rapidly after announcement by new NLRB chairman Guy Farmer of a stiff new anti-labor program, the board adopted a formal policy of guilt by indictment.

Columbus, O.—In an unusual Sunday court session, common pleas judge Joseph M. Harter upheld a restraining order limiting picketing by the UAW-CIO at the North American Aviation Co. plant here.

Washington—Pres. John L. Lewis of United Mine Workers, in a stinging letter to editor and publisher Robert R. McCormick of the Washington Times-Herald, New York Daily News, and Chicago Tribune, characterized as a "contemptible insult" an editorial attack on union welfare funds made in the Times-Herald.

New York—Pres. A. F. Hartung of Intl. Woodworkers (CIO) warned recently that injunctions are replacing scabs as the employers' favorite strikebreaking weapon.

New York—The United Steelworkers (CIO) has disclosed the modified kind of guaranteed annual wage it will seek in collective bargaining talks with the steel industry next spring. Main feature of the plan would have employers supplement unemployment insurance which workers receive from the states.

Co-Workers Don't Quibble Like G.E.

Brother Union members in Steam Turbine Division were quick to react last week to the G.E. Company's penny-pinching position in regard to furnishing the orthopedic spring to Brother Dominick Friello, a welder in Bldg. 273. Last Friday's Electrical Union News carried an article pointing out the details of the case in which he received a permanent back injury at work as a result of which his doctor instructed him to sleep on an orthopedic mattress. G.E. on instruction from the court after paying for lost time, hospital and doctor's bill, operation and mattress, claims they must now review Company policy to decide if they will furnish the necessary spring, a cost of \$79.50, establishing what seems a new low in Company callousness.

Indignation ran high among Turbine co-workers as shown by the fact that on Monday Executive Board member Joe Sickinger turned in a list to Union Headquarters of 72 fellow workers pledging the \$79.50 that, as they put it, G.E. was too cheap to furnish. This apparently was only the beginning of a spontaneous reaction to the G.E.'s pecuniary policy since there were eight or nine similar lists making the rounds in Bldg. 273 as of last week.

Bldg. 285 Steward Wins Case

As a result of a grievance processed by Shop Steward Charles Carbin, Bldg. 285, two Class "B" Machinists were upgraded to Class "A". The steward brought the case to Foreman Kony who refused to grant the request. The case finally was referred to management before a settlement could be reached.

Labor Expects Major Attack on Social Security at Next Session of Congress

Warned by the reactionary actions of the Republican party, organized labor is preparing for a major GOP attack on the social security system when Congress reconvenes in January.

Chairman Carl T. Curtis (Republican, Neb.) of the House ways and means sub-committee on social security announced recently it is his belief that trained "business organizations" like insurance companies should handle the entire setup. This brought such a storm of protest that Curtis sent a letter to all newspapers in his district,

explaining that the subcommittee is just investigating.

"All we want is the facts," he said. But he admitted the full-scale hearings next year will go into every phase of the setup. This, labor representatives believe, will give the U. S. Chamber of Commerce an opportunity to advance its fight for the "giveaway" to the states of the big social security reserves fund.

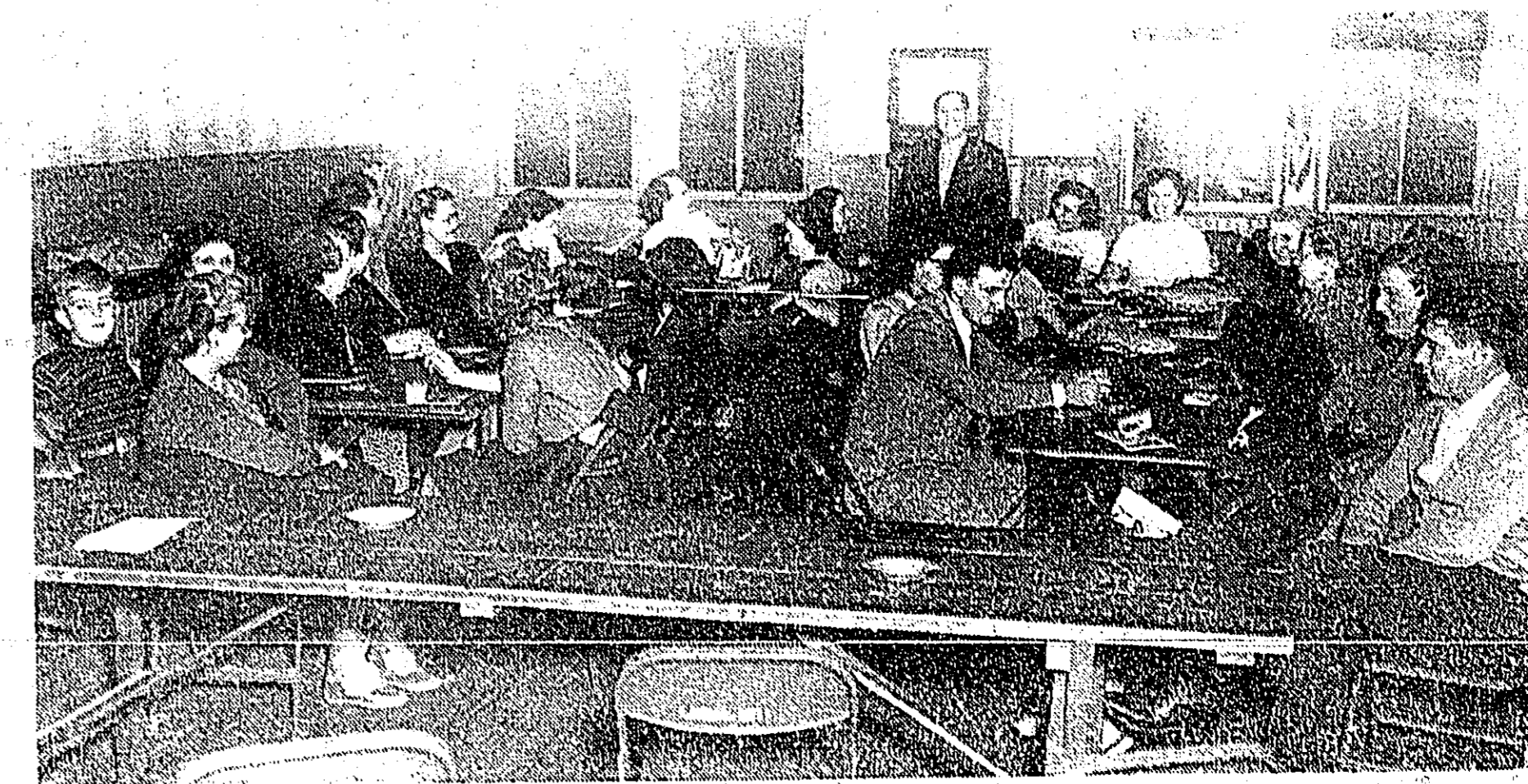
Another major attack on the program is shaping up under the guise of tax cutting. Rep. Richard Simpson (R., Pa.) has prepared a bill which would freeze the social security tax at 1½%, the present rate, instead of allowing it to go up to 2% Jan. 1 as scheduled. Simpson, a high ranking member of the ways and means committee, calls the move a tax reduction step.

Sen. Walter F. George (D., Ga.), ranking minority member of the Senate finance committee, has come out in full support of the Simpson idea. "It would be unfair to let income taxes go down and the social security tax go up," he said. "This would be increasing the burden on low-income families while decreasing it on those with higher incomes."

AFL social security Dir. Nelson Cruikshank replied that the social security levy should not be considered a tax in the real sense.

"Actually," he said, "it's an insurance contribution to an insurance premium to provide for workers in their old age and to provide for the family of a worker in case he dies."

UE Local 301 Womens' Meeting



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