

## KEEP YOUR EYE ON CONGRESS

BILL	WHAT IT DOES	WHERE IT IS	ACTION
Wage-Hour Amendments Senate Bill 70 HR 2157	Offers weakening amendments to Wage-Hour bill; would limit workers' rights to damage claims.	Passed by Senate and House; now before joint conference committee.	Write President Truman to veto this weakening of Wage-Hour Act.
Anti-labor bills, both in Senate and House.	Wide variety of bills to limit bargaining, destroy union security, repeal and change Wagner Act, interfere with right to strike.	Bills now being studied by House and Senate Labor Committees.	Urge Senators and Representatives to oppose all bills to weaken labor's rights.
HR 1, Knutson "soak poor" tax bill	Provides small tax savings for low income families, big wind-falls for wealthy.	Passed by House. Sent to Senate Finance Committee.	Ask Senators to kill bill and to support Murray bill, S.348 to aid low income groups.

## Company Offer Due In Machinists' Case

The company's offer in the machinists' case was awaited this week, after tool-makers as well as the machine repair men and tool room machine operators directly involved had called on foremen all over the plant to demand early and favorable action.

Two weeks ago James Burnison told Business Agent Leo Jandreau in New York that the answer in the machinists case was "No." The special meeting of toolmakers and machinists was called for Monday night and Tuesday afternoon, to act on this deadlock at the top. Then George Pfief, GE head of personnel relations, told Jandreau the company had decided to make an offer, and would probably do so this week.

The meeting Monday night brought out large numbers of machinists, as well as of toolmakers backing up their demands.

While waiting for the company's offer, the members decided to limit their action to visits, individually and in groups, to let their foremen know they wanted action on the case. The visits took place Tuesday in the various tool rooms and machine repair shops.

## Softball Team

The Executive Board has authorized the Activities Committee to sponsor a girls' softball team. Already many of the girls who played on the UE's championship basketball team this winter have signed up for softball. Anyone interested should apply to Helen Quirini.

## Brother Davis Sick

Board Member Albert Davis is ill at his home with pneumonia.

## Workers Oppose 12 Hour Shift

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, was to give management's answer yesterday to complaints about the schedule of 120 third shift workers in Bldgs. 49 and 60.

These employes work 6½ hours Monday through Thursday nights, but have a 12 hour shift Friday. This means they actually work till noon, or almost noon, Saturday.

A four-man committee from the shop and William Kelly, assistant to the business agent, told management last week the workers want straight eight hour shifts daily. Yesterday's meeting was to take place after this week's EU News went to press.

## Veterans Testify In Vacation Case

Three World War II veterans of Local 301 testified in U. S. District Court in New York City recently in veterans' vacation suits brought against General Electric Co. They are Joseph Dominelli, chairman of the local's Veterans' Committee; John Siaskiewicz and Joseph Sikora.

The company refused vacation pay to veterans till they had worked six months after returning from service. The union contends this is a violation of the Selective Service law and that time spent in military service should be counted like time at the plant.

## 'Defend Your Union'

The Local 301 Executive Board has ordered 1,000 copies of the National CIO leaflet, "Defend your Union."

## Turbine Discussion Hits Another Snag

Arrangements for another meeting of the special committee of Turbine representatives with local management on the carboly speed-up dispute hung fire as this paper went to press, because of a difference of opinion as to what would be discussed.

It was Local 301's understanding that James Burnison referred the case back for local discussion as to the basis for setting piece prices. But A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, told William Kelly, assistant to the business agent, that he had no intention of considering the pricing basis, and would discuss individual prices only, based on the old time study formula. The Turbine committeemen have insisted that the speed-up must carry the possibility of increased earnings.

In the meantime, prices remained unchanged during the discussion, as agreed upon. Supervision in Bldg. 60 tried to impress upon the workers the idea that there was much work ahead. Overtime on lathes was increasing. The union had raised the issue of possible lay-offs resulting from the speed-up.

Meetings of the committeemen and members in Turbine will probably be called shortly to consider the situation.

## Merit Raise

Sylvester P. Chiofalo, wrinkle sprayer in Bldg. 24, has received a merit raise of five cents an hour, retroactive to Jan. 15, through a grievance case handled by Committeeman George H. Stanton. He now gets \$1.235 an hour instead of \$1.185.

MAKE YOUR SHOP  
100 PER CENT UE

## Electrical Union News

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO &amp; MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA—LOCAL 301 CIO

Vol. 4—No. 52

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

April 11, 1947

## Meeting Today On Deadlock in Turbine Dispute

An emergency meeting of all Turbine Division committeemen (Bldgs. 49, 60, and 273) will be held at 1 p.m. today (Friday) at the Local 301 hall to consider the company's flat refusal to discuss union proposals on compensation in connection with the carboly tool speed-up.

The special committee of Turbine representatives called the meeting after a further conference with A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, Friday, showed only that the local management was unwilling to grant any concession on earnings as a result of the proposed speed-up and increased production.

The committee felt that the carboly issue actually involved the whole drive in the Division to speed-up the workers, on day work or piece work, so as to produce more at no increase in pay and possibly at reduced earnings.

The meeting with Stevens was arranged after James Burnison in New York referred the case back here for further discussion. But Stevens declared he would not discuss a new price-setting basis, that he would not consider new time study allowances, and that he expected the workers to make the same earnings

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## 301 Membership Meeting To Hear Contract Report

A report on the progress of GE contract negotiations will be made by Leo Jandreau, business agent, at the Local 301 membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Apr. 15, at the union hall.

When the sessions were resumed this week, union shop, vacation pay, grievance machinery, transfers and several other issues were taken up.

The 1946 agreement was automatically renewed as of Apr. 1 because neither the union nor the company gave notice of termination. Negotiations are now being conducted under the modification clause of the contract.

## Rotterdam Board Defends Unions

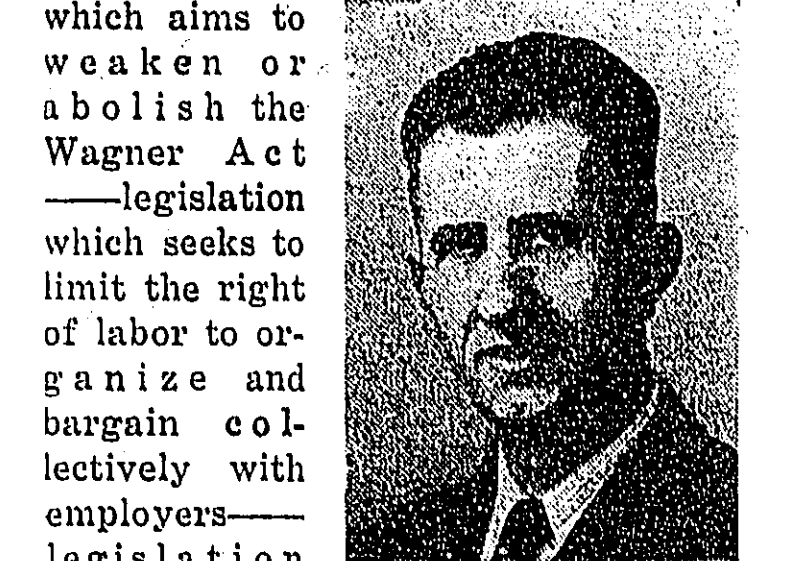
The Rotterdam Town Board Apr. 4 passed a resolution opposing efforts to weaken or abolish the Wagner act and opposing other anti-union legislation. The resolution was introduced by Councilman William Alheim, a member of Local 301, and seconded by Councilman Neil J. Dube, also of 301.

"Certain reactionary forces are making a powerful propaganda drive designed to convince the public that the welfare of the nation requires new and drastic restrictions on the activities of labor unions," the statement declared.

The resolution pointed out that a large proportion of the residents of Rotterdam are union members and that "no threat to liberty or the American way of life arises from the people of our community or the unions to which they belong."

The Board went on record as opposing "legislation which aims to punish labor which aims to weaken or abolish the Wagner Act—legislation which seeks to limit the right of labor to organize and bargain collectively with employers—legislation which would interfere with the internal affairs of labor unions—and legislation which aims to prevent unions and their members from taking active part in the civic and political welfare of the community."

(Continued on Page 3)



William Alheim

tion of the residents of Rotterdam are union members and that "no threat to liberty or the American way of life arises from the people of our community or the unions to which they belong."

(Continued on Page 3)

## GE Makes Offer To Raise Rates Of Machinists

## Meeting Monday

A company offer to raise all except about 60 of the 500 involved in the machinists' wage case will come before a special meeting of machinists and toolmakers next Monday night, Apr. 14, at the union hall.

The offer provides for increasing the job rates and giving a one-step raise effective Mar. 1, for all in the case except those already at or above the new job rates. For most of those benefiting from the case, this means 5 cents, retroactive to Mar. 1. For some it means 4 cents from Mar. 1, with an additional 5 cents effective Apr. 7.

Included in the case are the machinists in Machine Repair and the Tool Room machine operators and machinists.

For all these jobs the rate for class A will be raised from \$1.385 to \$1.435, for B from \$1.285 to \$1.335, and for Class C from \$1.145 to \$1.235. For three tool room groups, the Kellar engravers, Giddings and Lewis machines, and Grinders on Combination Dies, the old job rate was \$1.435, and will be raised to \$1.465.

Class C machinists in the case who were at the job rate of \$1.145 will go to \$1.185 as of Mar. 1, and to the new job rate of \$1.235 as of Apr. 7.

The offer came after the men in the case, backed up by the toolmakers, had called on their foremen last week to protest against the delays, and to demand early and favorable action.

The offer was given to Business Agent Leo Jandreau by James Burnison in New York later last week.

A special joint meeting of the toolmakers' and machinists' committee last Friday voted to recommend acceptance of the proposal, and to submit it to the special meeting next Monday night.

EVERY GE WORKER A UE  
MEMBER!

## KEEP YOUR EYE ON CONGRESS

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Hartley Bill HR 2861	Would destroy Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction Act in order to smash the strike of telephone workers.	Approved by House Labor Committee.	Write and wire Representatives to oppose bill as threat to all labor.
Wage-Hour Amendments Senate Bill 70 HR 2157	Offers weakening amendments to Wage-Hour bill; would limit workers' rights to damage claims.	Passed by Senate and House; now before joint conference committee.	Write President Truman to veto this weakening of Wage-Hour Act.
Anti-labor bills, both in Senate and House.	Wide variety of bills to limit bargaining, destroy union security, repeal and change Wagner Act, interfere with right to strike.	Bills now being studied by House and Senate Labor Committees.	Urge Senators and Representatives to oppose all bills to weaken labor's rights.
HR I, Knutson "soak poor" tax bill	Provides small tax savings for low income families, big wind-falls for wealthy.	Passed by House. Sent to Senate Finance Committee.	Ask Senators to kill bill and to support Murray bill, S.348 to aid low income groups.

### Organizing Drive Score Now 353

The Local 301 membership drive had brought in 353 applications by the time this week's issue of EU News went to press. There are still 19 days until the end of the organization campaign, May 1.

Richard A. Nielson, Bldg. 69, still holds first place in the contest for signing up the most members, with Francis Hiller, Bldg. 285, and George Judway, Bldg. 18, tied for second place.

A \$100 bond will be awarded the member bringing in the most applications; a \$50 bond will be given for second place and a \$25 bond for third. Competition is plant-wide.

In addition, an award of one dollar will be made to each member for every application he turns in. William Stewart is chairman of the Organization Committee.

### Tune in Tomorrow

The National CIO radio program will be at 6:45 p.m. tomorrow (Saturday) on WOKO.

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Mary McCartin, Secretary  
Willard Kuschel, Victor Pasche  
Leland Sisto  
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### Company Answer Due On Third Shift Case

After a week's delay, A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, was to give management's answer yesterday to complaints about the schedule of 120 third shift workers in Bldgs. 49 and 60.

He was to meet a four-man committee from the shop and William Kelly, assistant to the business agent, Apr. 8, but at the last minute asked for additional time to study the problem. The workers object to a 12 hour shift Fridays to make up for working only 6 1/2 hours the other days. They want a straight 8 hour shift.

### Next Section Night Scheduled Apr. 18

The next of the Local 301 Section Nights will be at 8 p.m. Friday, Apr. 18, at the Union Hall, the Activities Committee has announced.

Members in Anthony Villano's section, Bldgs. 5 and 37, and in Albert Davis' section, Bldgs. 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 28, will be the guests. There will be entertainment, dancing and refreshments.

The first of the programs was scheduled for last night, for members in George Judway's section.

### 301 Radio Program

In cooperation with the National CIO Defend Labor Month program, all the weekly broadcasts of Local 301 during April will be devoted to exposing the present drive against unions. The broadcasts are at 7:15 p.m. every Monday over Station WSNY.

### Union to Collect For Cancer Drive

Local 301 will launch its part of the nation-wide fund drive of the American Cancer Society next Monday and will try to complete the job within the same week.

Every committeeman will receive a tin box from his Board member to pass around among the workers in his group, including office workers in the area. The boxes will be returned either through the Board members or directly to the union office. Every box will be marked with the committeeman's name.

Heading the driving are three Executive Board members, James Cognetta, Mary McCartin and Dewey Brashear, and Adam Boss, assistant to the business agent.

### \$880.90 Collected in Shops To Aid Paralyzed Veterans

The first collections reported by the Local 301 Veterans' Committee for the Schenectady Paraplegic Fund amounted to \$880.90. Many shop committeemen have not turned in their money yet.

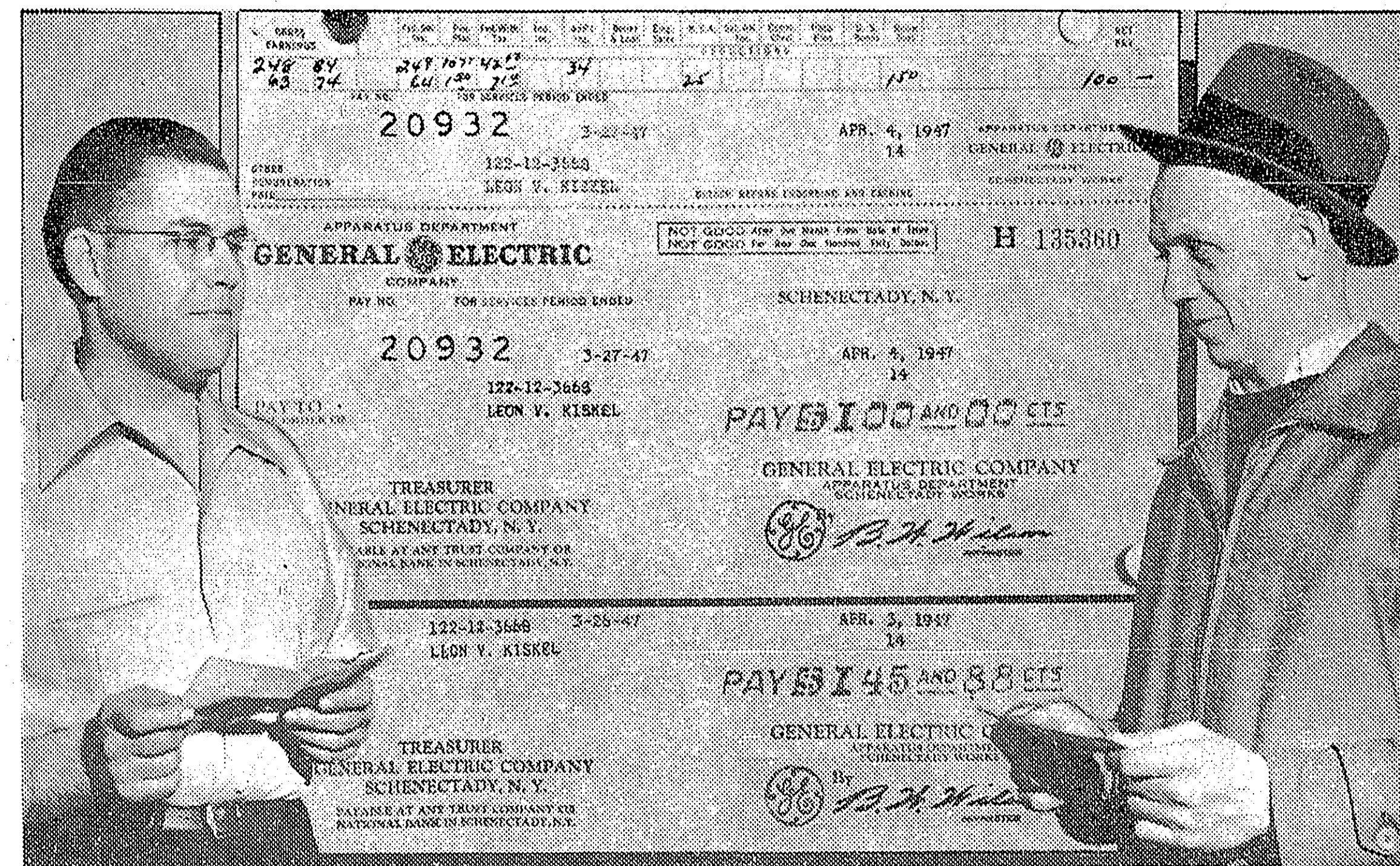
Willard Kuschel, Board member, handed in \$202, the complete collection in his section, Bldgs. 42, 46, 48 and 50. No other section has made its complete report.

Louis Sargent, committeeman in Bldg. 273, has the best individual committeeman's collection record to date. He has turned in \$105.30.

The money will be used to build homes for four World War II veterans paralyzed by injuries suffered in action.

**BUILD YOUR UNION**

## They Have Something to Smile About - Union Gets Them Back Pay



Harold S. Simmons, right, received back pay of \$169.90 and Leon V. Kiskel, left, received back pay of \$248.84 through a grievance case handled by Leo Jandreau, business agent, for shop electricians in Bldg. 13-F. Others in the group also collected pay arrears. Management put electricians in the shop on "continuous process" for maintenance purposes, removing them from Saturday and Sunday overtime. Jandreau filed a

grievance last July 18, and when no settlement was reached demanded arbitration. The company stalling the arbitration request, but in early March backed down and agreed to drop the "continuous operation" claim on the jobs. The checks reproduced here represent Kiskel's \$248.84 arrears and his current weekly pay, minus various routine deductions. There had to be two checks because of GE policy of not writing a check of over \$150 for wages.

### Rotterdam Board Defends Unions

(Continued from Page 1)

The Schenectady Gazette didn't mention this resolution in its story the next day of the Rotterdam Board meeting. It said Monday that a statement endorsing the Wagner Act and protesting against any provisions that would weaken it "was read at the meeting." Not a word about the Council adopting the resolution.

Both Andrew Peterson, Local 301 president, and William Templeton of the Legislative Committee were among the observers at the Council meeting when the resolution was passed. Templeton had appeared at an earlier meeting to ask the adoption of such a statement.

Councilman Dube works in Bldg. 28 and Councilman Alheim in Bldg. 64.

### Taking Care of Charlie

President Charles E. Wilson of GE received \$198,000 for salary and "extra compensation" in 1946 compared with \$129,635 in 1945.

But for the workers in the plants, he called for "a moratorium on wage increases."

### CIO Meeting Postponed

The citywide meeting for shop stewards of all Schenectady CIO unions has been postponed from Wednesday, Apr. 16. The CIO Coordinating Committee will announce the new date later. Robert Lamb, national legislative director of the United Steelworkers of America, scheduled to be principal speaker, would be unable to come to Schenectady Apr. 16.

### Meeting Today On Turbine Case

(Continued from Page 1)

after the speed-up as before. He said he would not be willing to raise the AER (anticipated earning rate). In fact, he suggested that after the speed-up "in some ways the skill is reduced", although he was not proposing an actual reduction in the AER. He also declared he was not willing to guarantee past average earnings after the change.

Thus the line was clearly drawn over the contention of the Turbine union representatives that with the speed-up there must be an adjustment in the pricing formula to restore the incentive feature and make possible a reasonable increase in earnings.

**PUSH THE ORGANIZING DRIVE**