

9 Crafts Offered 5 Cent Pay Raise

A five-cent increase in the top hourly rate for millwrights, riggers, ironworkers, carpenters, masons, roofers, painters, tinsmiths and crane repairmen was offered by the company in the second building trades negotiations meeting Friday.

The same offer for the tinsmiths and crane repairmen had been made in the earlier cases for these groups, which are now pending between the top management of the company and the national UE.

At Least 10 Cents Asked

The union, on instruction of the building tradesmen, has been insisting that the GE building trades rates, which are far below those on the outside, should be corrected at least to the extent of the 10 cents won for the electricians and steamfitters through the War Labor Board.

Speaking for the company, A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, refused to offer any raise for the machine tool fitters, glaziers and pipe coverers.

Stevens offered to establish a single helpers' rate of \$1.10½, without "B" classification, in the classifications of electricians, steamfitters, tinsmiths, millwrights, riggers, and carpenters, but only if the union would drop its proposal for an apprenticeship course under which all helpers could be trained to become recognized journeymen, and drop the proposed limitation of one helper to one journeyman. Committeemen in the negotiations were emphatic that apprenticeship courses are needed.

No raise was offered to the masons' and roofers' helpers, whom the company classes as "special" laborers.

Special Meeting Planned

A special meeting of the building trades members will be called within the next few days to hear the negotiating committees complete report on the company's position on all points, and take action on it. Another bargaining session was scheduled for yesterday to clear up some points in the company's stand.

Stevens agreed in principle that the building tradesmen should be fully utilized before an outside contract is let, and that the union should be given notice in advance of any outside contract and a chance to discuss the matter, "as far as possible." He objected, however, to the union's specific proposals for regulating outside contracts.

301 Union Member Coroner Candidate

Morris L. Reed, Democratic and American Labor Party candidate for coroner, has been a member of Local 301 from its early days. He is in the Turbine Department.

During World War I he served in the U. S. Navy as a machinist's mate. A resident of Schenectady for 30 years, he is a member of the American Legion, Reliance Lodge of Odd Fellows, Christopher Yates Masonic Lodge and the GE Quarter Century Club. He is married and has two children.



Morris L. Reed

Candidate Reed told EU News that some cases in Schenectady have not received proper attention from the coroner's office. Cases obviously requiring investigation were dismissed as "routine", he charged, and there were other instances of neglect.

Just a New Name For a Run-around

The longstanding arrangement by which GE employees obtained discounts at stores retailing GE products on small items like toasters and electric irons has been suddenly discontinued.

GE management has announced that employees can instead buy the products at the company store. But the GE store refuses to take such orders from employees, according to latest reports to EU News.

Local 301 on Air

Tune in on the Local 301 radio program every Monday at 7:15 p.m. over Station WSNY.

The company's five-cent raise offer for the building trades mentioned above carried also an offer to raise the job rate for brush painters from \$1.14½ to \$1.28½.

Local 301 Tackles GE On Bldg. 16 Conditions

(Continued from Page 1)
Kenneth Sheehan and Paul Schulenburg are acting with him as a special committee to press these grievances.

Shop Meeting Refused

The company turned down the request for a shop meeting after receiving complaints from Brother Kelly on six points.

1. Congestion of the iron floor.
2. Unreasonable and conflicting orders of foremen.
3. Bad conditions in crane service. The shortage of crane followers has caused long waits on the part of other workers. Many men have had to go home because there was no work to do. One crane in the main bay had no crane follower for two months.

4. Shortage of stockroom clerks causes other workers to lose time getting their own stocks.

5. Under a new system employees lose considerable time waiting for tools to be given them for boring mill work.

6. The planning and piece departments are so behind schedule that vouchers are often not ready until the end of a weeks work. Workers lose time trying to hunt up their vouchers.

Although the complaints involved arose in Bldg. 16, similar conditions apparently exist in other buildings. Kelly should be notified of them.

Company Uncooperative

"The Bldg. 16 conditions could have been cleaned up immediately if the company had acted in a reasonable and cooperative way," Brother Kelly said, "and agreed to visit the shop to check up."

"Instead, they are stalling us by insisting on dotting every 'i' and going through every step of a formal grievance procedure."

"One big trouble in Bldg. 16,—the conflicting orders and the delays,—is that the place is top-heavy with 'executives'. The company laid off stockroom keepers and other necessary workers, who needed their jobs badly, and went out of its way to safeguard jobs of company sub-executives."

Active Campaign

(Continued from page one)
rah, 301, Ward 10; Brother Herman, 2054, Ward 11; John Clune, 301 Ward 12, and Kenneth Sheehan, 301, Scotia and Glenville.

Volunteers are needed for campaign work. They should contact ward chairmen or call 2-1309 at 301 Liberty.

- VOTE NOVEMBER 5 -

Electrical Union News

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

VOL. III—No. 29

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

October 31, 1946

Union Battles GE Shut-Down

A two-front attack on the General Electric Co. plan to shut down the Schenectady plant for half a day Election Day without pay was authorized by the Local 301 Executive Board at its Monday meeting.

Officers were directed to take the case to the district attorney's office with a complaint charging intended evasion of the Election Law and to demand criminal prosecution of the company if the shut-down is carried out as scheduled.

On the grounds of contract violation, the union will process a case through the regular grievance machinery for recovery of pay lost by the shut-down.

GE, Please Copy

In contrast to GE, the American Locomotive Co. has announced it will give its day shift workers eight hours pay Election Day, but send them home two hours early to meet the Election Law requirement of granting two hours off with pay.

Without hedging, ALCO agreed ahead this year to this arrangement with the United Steelworkers of America.

The union charges that the company violated the contract with UE by ordering the shut-down without first trying to negotiate a departure from the 40 hours work week for "an adequate cause."

The union has asked GE to give eight hours pay for six hours work Election Day in order to comply with the section of the Election Law guaranteeing a registered voter two hours off with pay to go to the polls. The union charges that shutting the plant down at noon

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Vote PAC Election Day

Here is the full list of CIO-PAC election candidates, endorsed by the Schenectady County PAC and by membership meetings of Local 301, the United Steelworkers of America and the Transport Workers Union.

Candidate for governor, James M. Mead, Dem., ALP; lieutenant governor, Erastus Corning, Dem., ALP; comptroller, Spencer C. Young, Dem., ALP; attorney general, Anthony J. Di Giovanni, Dem., ALP; chief judge, Court of Appeals, John T. Loughran, Rep., Dem., ALP; associate judge, Court of Appeals, Henry Epstein, Dem., ALP; U. S. senator, Herbert H. Lehman, Dem., ALP; Representative to Congress, Carroll A. Gardner, Dem., ALP; state senator, Thomas Fyvie, ALP; member of Assembly, Owen M. Begley, Dem., ALP; district attorney, Ernest G. Buhrmaster, Dem., ALP; county treasurer, Eva Green, ALP; sheriff, William Sherry, Dem.; coroner, Morris L. Reed, Dem., ALP, and councilman, Lewis A. Benedict, ALP.

Voting starts at 6 a.m. next Tuesday, Nov. 5, and continues until 7 p.m.

Want Ives' Resignation

Governor Dewey has been asked by the United Labor Committee for Mead in Buffalo to request the resignation of Irving M. Ives as dean of the State Industrial Labor Relations School because of Ives' recent statement that employers have an "inalienable" right to the lockout. Ives is Republican candidate for U. S. senator.

301 Board Hits Latest Attacks Against Union

A series of recent attacks on the union brought a sharp warning this week from the Local 301 Executive Board that the GE and the Republican machine are using "conscious and unconscious stooges" among the membership in their efforts to weaken the union and destroy its program.

The Board, at its meeting Monday, condemned an anonymous leaflet distributed at the plant gates last Friday as an attack on Local 301 "for the sole purpose of disruption."

The Board also condemned the action of John Saccoccio in going to the press with business of the Board "before the Board had an opportunity to bring the matter to the attention of the membership."

Such an action "is grounds for charges against any so-called leader in our union," the Board declared.

Brothers Saccoccio and John Boyle, both Board members, walked out of Monday's meeting after the discussion of the recent attacks on the union began.

The remaining members unanimously went on record as mentioned above and also voted unanimous approval of the answer Leo Jandreau wrote to a letter of Sal Vottis' in the Schenectady Union-Star. The Vottis letter attacked the union, PAC and Brother Jandreau.

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Defense Fund Increased

The Executive Board at its Monday meeting voted to buy \$10,000 worth of government bonds for the Local 301 defense fund. The money will be taken from the union's general fund.



Carroll A. Gardner

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Press Has Field Day With This Union News

After the Gazette printed a posed picture of John Saccocio Tuesday and quoted him about a fist fight he had with Charles Ferris at an Executive Board meeting Monday, the press in general clamored for details of this "union news." The Gazette hadn't bothered to contact the union office before running its publicity splurge.

President Andrew Peterson issued a statement Tuesday expressing regret that for the first time in the union's history such an incident took place at a Board meeting, and attributing it to "hard feelings developed because of the efforts of forces outside the union to inject false issues and name calling into the union."

He declared the union would not let anti-union forces succeed in using the incident to "break up our PAC work" or injure the union program.

The fight was stopped quickly by the rest of the Board, Brother Peterson pointed out, and the Board demanded an apology from both participants.

"Ferris did apologize," Brother Peterson said. "Saccocio left."
Saccocio, for several years a Republican committeeman, was reported in the Gazette as a World War II veteran. He is not.

Union Battles GE Shut-Down

(Continued from Page 1)
inflicts a penalty for political interest and activity on the part of the workers.
GE revealed its real interest is not in maintaining production or working out a really effective Election Day schedule. After announcing the noon closing was to give plenty of time (without pay) to vote, it told the union any voter who claims time off with pay will have to take it in the morning. The entire day shift must lose the afternoon pay, according to the GE scheme.

The Local 301 radio program is scheduled for 7:15 p.m. every Monday over Station WSNY.

Board Hits Attack Against Local 301

(Continued from Page 1)
The following statement was unanimously adopted by the Board (22 persons attending after Brothers Saccocio and Boyle left):

Board Statement
"During the past week this union has been subjected to a series of attacks which must give serious concern to the membership.

"A member of the local ran to the anti-labor daily press with a story about a minor department election dispute, and the Union-Star played it up as if it were a real piece of news.

"Then an anonymous group claiming to consist of union members, and misusing the name of "democratic action", handed out at the plant gates a leaflet filled with lies and distortions, attacking not just the leadership of the union, but the membership in meeting assembled. The Gazette went so far as to print this anonymous piece prominently and in full.

"Some active members of our union are campaigning openly for William Dunn, the GE general foreman who misleads the City Council, and who now seeks to be elected sheriff in order that he may better serve GE against its employees.

Vottis Agent of Cushing Machine
"And finally that old renegade, Sal Vottis, came out openly in his true role, that of agent of the Cushing Republican machine, in a red-baiting attack upon the union and its campaign to elect Roosevelt candidates and defeat the Hoover-Dewey forces. His lies and red-baiting coincide with that of the so-called "Democratic Action" leaflet.

"It is important that we see clearly what is happening here. Big Business, General Electric, through its stooges, the Republican machine, the daily papers, and their dupes inside the union, are in an all-out drive against Local 301, with the immediate aim of breaking up the PAC drive against Dewey-Ives-Kearney-Dunn, and the lasting purpose of weakening this union in its fight to protect the living standards and working conditions of the GE workers.
"This union does not need to chatter of democracy. Every one of its actions is open to discussion from the floor at any meeting. The officers are completely subject to the will of the membership.

Not Honest Opposition
"Let no one confuse the present attack on the union with 'honest opposi-

Pay Raises Given To 155 Toolmakers

The latest survey of rates among toolmakers resulted in GE granting increases to 155 workers. The Executive Board stated, however, it was only partially satisfied with the survey, on the grounds that many other toolmakers should have received step increases to the top of the rate range of their respective classifications.

Space for GE, Not for UE

On Monday of last week the Gazette gave two-thirds of a column to a speech made in Bethlehem, Pa., by Dr. Zay Jeffers, vice-president of General Electric (not of Schenectady), viciously attacking labor. That evening Andrew Peterson, president of Local 301, on the radio, answered Dr. Jeffers, who is under indictment for his role in the General Electric cartel agreement with the Nazi Krupp firm. The Gazette had a copy of the speech. But not a line of Peterson's talk got into the Gazette.

The floor of the membership meeting is the place to ask questions and air differences. We are faced today with an organized attack upon the union, with General Electric and the Republican machine making use of the conscious and unconscious anti-union elements within the union. Those who lend themselves to this campaign are acting, whether they know it or not, as stooges of General Electric. Big Business is out to destroy our effectiveness in political action and in collective bargaining. It is using the personal ambitions of a few men within the union to further the attack.

"We call upon the membership to rally to the defense of the union, and to condemn the misguided union members who carry their differences to the daily anti-labor press and lend themselves to employer attacks upon the union. We have confidence that the membership will withstand all attacks."

When these unanimous Board actions were taken, those present were Andrew Peterson, president; Brother Jandreau, William Kelly, William Mastriani, M. J. White, Henry Busse, Anthony Esposito, Anthony Villano, J. D. McCarthy as alternate for John Dadson; William A. Stewart, Sam Scott, Eugene LeMoine, Irene Patterson, John C. Myers, Stanley Bishop, A. E. Davis, C. D. Ferris, L. F. Sisto, Willard Kusheel, Michael Tedisco, A. J. Spears and Dewey Brashcar.

A twenty-fifth member was not present at any part of the meeting.

Campaign Street Scene-It's a CIO-PAC Outdoor Rally in Third Ward



Ernest G. Buhrmaster, Democrat with ALP endorsement, who is backed by CIO-PAC as candidate for Schenectady County district attorney, is at the "mike" in this street rally at Front and Jefferson. The other candidate speaking last Friday, Thomas Fyvie, secretary-treasurer of Local 2054, ALP candidate for state senator.

Board Announces Election Calendar

Because the first Tuesday in November falls on Election Day, the Local 301 Executive Board decided at its meeting Monday to set the second Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 7:30 p.m. for the next meeting of shop committeemen, at the union hall.

The Board ruled that in accordance with Article 18 of the local's constitution nominations of candidates for general officers shall be made at this general meeting of shop representatives at that time.

The election committee and the business agent make arrangements for the annual election in December, the constitution provides.

The slate of candidates nominated by the representatives' meeting Nov. 12 must be submitted for approval to a general 301 membership meeting which may reject the slate, approve it or make whatever changes or additions it wishes.

The Board set 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 17 for the general 301 membership meeting so that all shifts will have a chance to be present. The date for the annual union elections of general officers was scheduled as Monday, Dec. 2, by the Board.

Here are the sections of Article 18 concerning nominations.

"Section A—
Nominations of candidates for general officers shall be made at a general

Building Tradesmen
Attention!

Important
Special Meeting

TO ACT ON

The Negotiations

MONDAY, NOV. 4 - 7:30 P. M.

Local 301 Hall
Liberty St. and Erie Blvd.

Craft Groups to Act On Wage Negotiations

All GE building tradesmen have been called to a meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Local 301 Hall to act on the current negotiations for wage adjustments and a contract supplement covering special problems of these trades. The negotiating committee of building trades representatives scheduled the meeting.

Three bargaining sessions in Bldg. 41 found the company and the union far apart on the unions proposals. At the third session, last week, A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent of the plant, said the company expected Class A building trades journeymen to act as leaders on certain jobs, sometimes for long periods, without extra pay for this leader work.

He declared only those assigned regularly as leaders of fixed groups would be paid as leaders. The representatives protested strongly against this proposition.

Stevens repeated the company's refusal to work out an apprenticeship system for the building trades. He even refused to meet with a federal apprentice training service official. The union had suggested the government representative might help work out the problem.

Defeat Kearney
and his HIGH MEAT PRICES
Elect CARROLL GARDNER

meeting of shop representatives, subject to the approval of a membership meeting called for that purpose. (Notifications of the election shall be posted in the plant at least seven days prior to the general election).

The meeting for nominations will take place during the month of November; elections will take place during the month of December and officers will be installed during January as stated in Article 4 of the Constitution.

"Section B—
Tellers and an election committee shall be appointed by the general meeting of shop representatives, who will, in conjunction with the business agent, make arrangements for election."