

Safety Hints In Turbine

Although Turbine Division management has always protested vehemently their deep concern over safety and working conditions in this Division, apparently they have neglected to notify all of their foremen to this effect. Otherwise, why should it be necessary, even after verbal complaints, to file a written grievance before corrections would be made in cases such as the following:

Shop Steward Bill Linka made verbal complaints to Foremen R. Diabrow and J. Hay regarding the necessity of repairing several polishing machines under their jurisdiction. However, it wasn't until a grievance was presented that a motor was taken out for repair and assurances made that other necessary repairs would be finished in the next several days.

Shop Steward Karl Quirini found it necessary to file a written grievance to correct the improper care of grinding wheels and the unsafe conditions of the guards on the tool grinders. As a result Foreman E. Allen did agree that a wheel dresser would work on Saturday when necessary; to make necessary adjustments in working schedules to correct the lack of a wheel dresser on 2nd shift and the guards on the grinders were adjusted.

Instances such as there will have to be eliminated before the Union representatives in this Division will accept as sincere management's supposed concern over safety. Otherwise, they will continue to resort to enforcement of the contract as often as necessary.

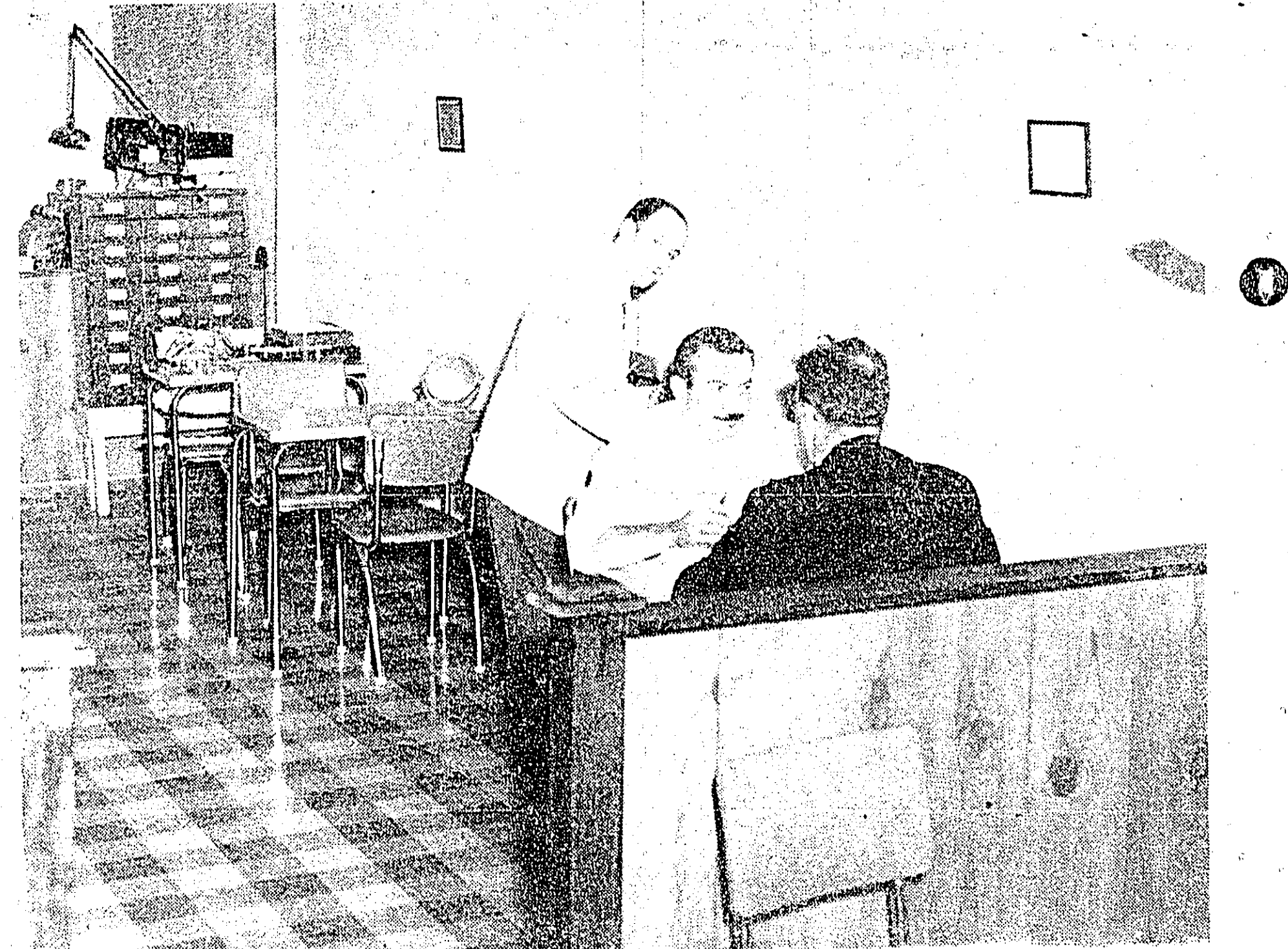
Dues Increase Petitions

Your shop steward has a petition on the question of an increase in Union dues of 50 cents a month. Every member of U.E. Local 301 has the right to express his or her position on this question by signing name and check number in one of the two columns provided in the petition for a "yes" or "no" vote.

The shop stewards have had the petitions for two weeks so that everyone will have opportunity to vote. The majority of the members participating in the election will decide the outcome on this issue.

The increase in dues is proposed to meet the increased Per Capita Tax of 25 cents to the National Union. The remaining 25 cents is to be used to bolster the local treasury.

4 • Friday, October 16, 1953



UNION OPTICAL PLAN IN ACTION

Union Optical Plan Working

Has your shop steward given you a card which entitles you to substantial savings if you or your family needs eye glasses?

Some of our members who have had their eyes examined and have purchased a pair of glasses say fine service and a real break. Douglas Gray, Board member in Bldg. 26B, along with President Cognetta and Marshall White from the Union

Business Office, got fitted last week — see them for references.

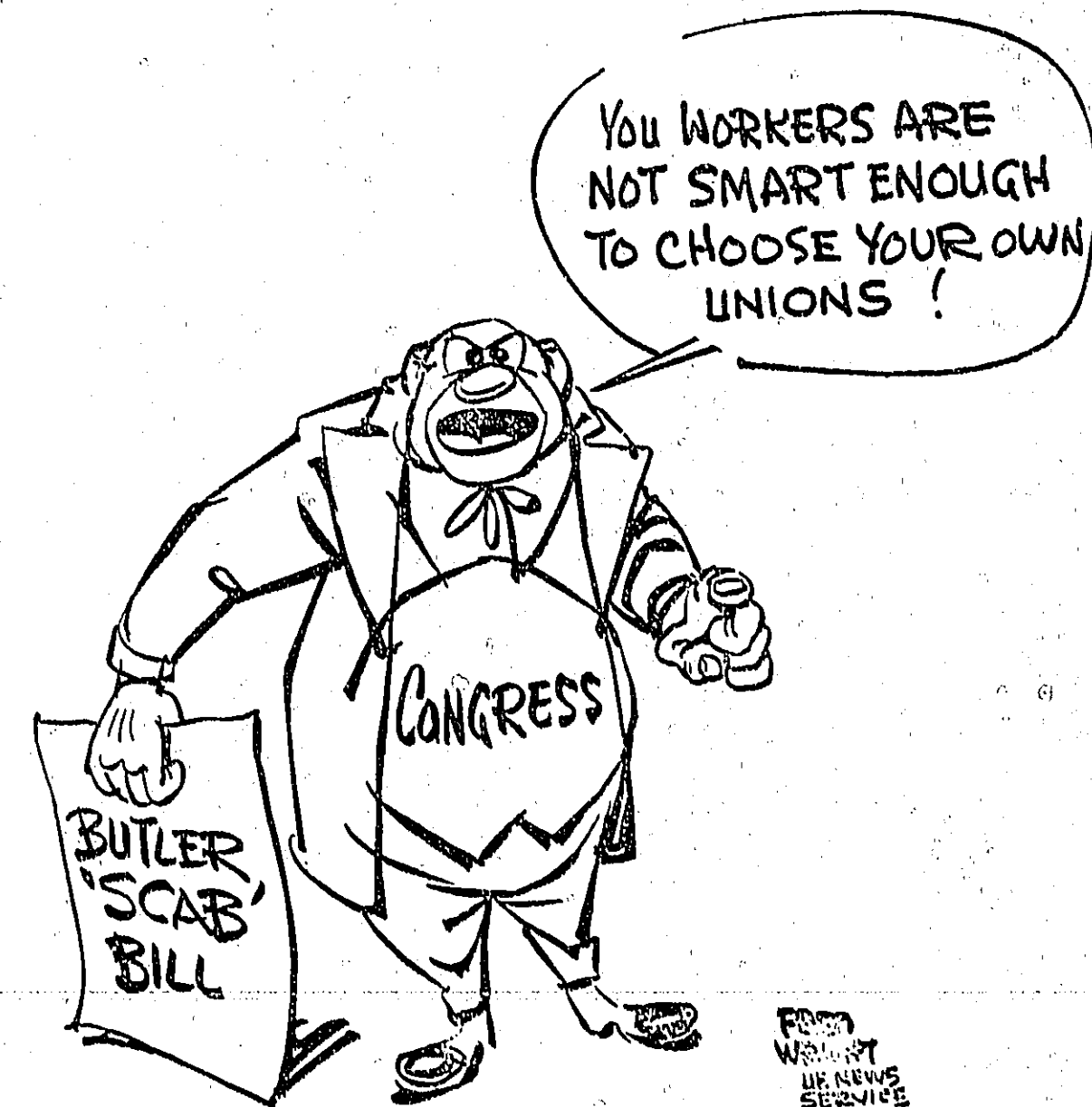
A picture of the office at 100 Jay street can be seen in this issue of our paper. Office hours are from 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Better call for an appointment. They have been giving one day service. Be sure to bring your Union optical card with you.

Inspectors Case, Bldg. 46, Settled

After several weeks of meetings, the grievance affecting Inspectors in Bldg. 46 was settled.

The complaint was that certain job assignments were underrated. The Union representatives in Bldg. 46 requested two new "B" classifications in final inspection and two new "B" classifications in the T.G.-190 Section. These jobs were being done by Class "C" Inspectors. The Union also requested an "A" Class Inspector in the Machine Section where Class "B" was the top classification. The management agreed to the Union's proposal.

The Union committee consisted of A. Townsend, C. Wilcox, P. Doherty, A. Griffith, G. Agius, K. Girard, W. Maszden and J. Cognetta. Larry Schilling, a top rated inspector in the Turbine Division, was called in to help on the case.



**ELECTION
(5)
District Delegates**
1 from 2nd Shift
4 from 1st and 3rd Shifts
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1953

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

Vol. 11 — No. 42

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

Friday, October 23, 1953



No Open House For Chippers

Detroit—Gen. Sec. Matthew Smith of the Mechanics Educational Society of America is ready to sign a no-riding agreement with the UAW-CIO, when details are worked out.

Washington—15 state universities refuse to conduct correspondence courses for the Defense Dept. because it wants to dictate who can do the teaching.

Washington—Foremen deputized as sheriff aids forced their way into sugar workers' homes in Louisiana to compel strikers to return to work, the National Agriculture Workers Union (AFL) told U. S. Atty-Gen. Brownell.

Washington—23% of U. S. families received less than \$2000 total income in 1950, before paying taxes, the census bureau reports.

Vancouver, B.C.—So many injunctions have been granted the lumber companies that "it is unnecessary for the employer to have strikebreakers," Pres. A. P. Hartung told the International Woodworkers (CIO) convention here.

San Francisco—"Another futile attempt," said Pres. Hugh Bryson, National Union of Marine Cooks & Stewards, when a third Taft-Hartley indictment against him was made. The first was dismissed and the U. S. wants the second dismissed too.

Last week, two Westinghouse elections took place, one in Nuttall 601, the other in Fairmont 627.

Nuttall, Pa.—400 eligible — U.E. 259, IUE, 60, IAM 59
The IAM petitioned in this plant, and all through this campaign the U.E. used the officials of the East Pittsburgh TUE to carry on the most intensive red-baiting campaign against our Local 601 in Nuttall.

Fairmont, W. Va.—U.E. 81, IUE 97, No Union 1

The president of Local 627 had sold out to the IUE. In Fairmont, the large lamp plant has been in the IUE since 1950, the original split.

The gates of the Schenectady General Electric Plant were thrown open last week to friends and neighbors in the community except for those of the Chippers and Welders in K-Bay, Bldg. 273, Turbine Division. At least that's the way they feel about it, and, judging from comments of visitors throughout the shop all day, they were not alone in their opinion.

Instead of open gates their working area was roped off and, in fact, guards were stationed to prevent any of their families from entering the area. The reason given for this action, because of safety hazards, would have been understandable except that the same type of work in other parts of the shop was open for inspection to the public. The obvious question, of course, is that if it was unsafe in one area, how could it be safe in another. It would seem that a little foresight on the part of the Public Relations Experts or at least a little better judgment could have avoided this situation and at least have given these families, many of whom had travelled many miles, a brief opportunity to see the part of Open House that they were interested in. Community relations—and employee relations—in this section apparently weren't worth enough.

N.Y.S. Commissioner Seeks Upset for Union's Victory

*Appeal Taken by State for Vacation-Pay
Unemployment Insurance Decision*

In a surprise move of the Industrial Commissioner of New York State's Department of Labor, the rights of GE workers to receive unemployment insurance benefits for the vacation shut-down periods was abruptly suspended.

Trustees Tally Vote On Dues Increase

October 19, 1953
To the Membership of U.E.
Local 301:

We, the undersigned Trustees of U.E. Local 301, having counted the petitions for amending Article XXIII of the Constitution to provide for fifty cents (50c) per month increase in Union dues and found 6795 in favor and 4789 opposed.

Edward Luberta
William Garrison
Vincent Palazek

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, Oct. 26
7:30 P.M.

UNION HEADQUARTERS

Supreme Court of United States Agrees to Review Emspak Case

On October 12, 1953, the United States Supreme Court granted a request for review of the Emspak case. With this move, the highest court in the land undertakes to decide

whether the House Un-American Activities Committee as constituted, when Julius Emspak, General Secretary-Treasurer, appeared before it on December 5, 1949, violated the First Amendment of the Constitution. The Court will also decide whether the First Amendment protects a witness in his refusal to discuss his political views and affiliations.

Emspak was indicted on 68 counts on November 20, 1950. 58 counts were based on his refusal to answer questions in relation to his association with union members and union officials. On March 1, 1951, Emspak was convicted and sentenced to six months imprisonment and \$500 fine.

Emspak's lawyers took an appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals, the next to the highest court in the land. Because of the seriousness of the questions involved, all nine judges of this Court, instead of the usual three, heard the lawyers arguments. The outcome of this appeal was a split decision, with the majority upholding the conviction. The next step was to ask the permission of the Supreme Court to review the case, which it has agreed to do. It can be expected that many months will elapse before the Supreme Court hands down a decision.

In his testimony before the Com-

(Continued on page 2)

The Commissioner filed a notice, and served copies of this notice on Local 301, appealing from the recent decision made by a Referee holding that workers who were not receiving vacation pay were entitled to unemployment insurance benefits.

Anyone who is at all familiar with the slow operations of legal procedures easily can see that by this step, the Commissioner has succeeded in causing months, if not years, of delay before the workers could receive their benefits.

The union's lawyer informs us that this appeal is only the first of a series which will probably take place. First, there will be several weeks of delay before an Appeals Board decided the issue. Briefs will have to be prepared by the lawyers and perhaps arguments of the lawyers before the Appeals Board will have to take place. The Appeals Board will then take some weeks before it hands down a decision on the appeal.

If the Board should agree with the Referee and affirm his decision, the chances are that the Industrial Commissioner will take a further appeal to the courts. In the courts the delay would be even longer because normally it takes one year at least, before a decision can be obtained there.

Letters of protest on the appeal will probably be sent at least by all workers who would have gotten these benefits if not for the appeal and also by many others who are tired of having the laws of the state interpreted strictly against those who were intended to be protected by these laws.

Letters can be addressed to:
Mr. Edward Corsi,
Industrial Commissioner
80 Centre Street
New York, New York

Company Must Make Good Reductions in Earnings of Injured

When a worker loses time from work due to an accident, the Company must compensate him up to \$32 a week for the wages he is losing while away from work. A worker who has returned to work after an absence due to an accident may also be entitled to compensation while he is working, if he is losing pay.

The law requires an employer to make up two-thirds of the injured worker's loss in pay. Thus, for example, let us assume that a worker was earning \$75.00 a week before he had his accident. After his accident he was forced to stay away from work due to his accident. He received \$32 a week while he was not working. Now the worker has returned to work but can only earn \$60 per week due to his accident. He is losing \$15 per week. The Company must pay him \$10 per week, or two-thirds of his loss, in addition to his wages of \$60 per week.

In actual practice, the loss of earnings is not made up each and every week. Instead, the loss of pay is averaged over a period of two to three months and then the worker receives his compensation for lost earnings for the entire two or three month period. For workers who are financially unable to wait for the difference in pay for so long a time, arrangements can be made for the Company to give the worker an advance on the lost earnings with the balance paid to him at the end of the period.

In certain types of accidents, like an injury to a foot, a leg, an arm or hand, a worker, if he is permanently disabled, is entitled to a cash award. From this award is later deducted any "lost time" or "reduced earnings" payments already made to the worker. This will be explained in greater detail, in the next week's issue of the union's paper.

Emspak Case

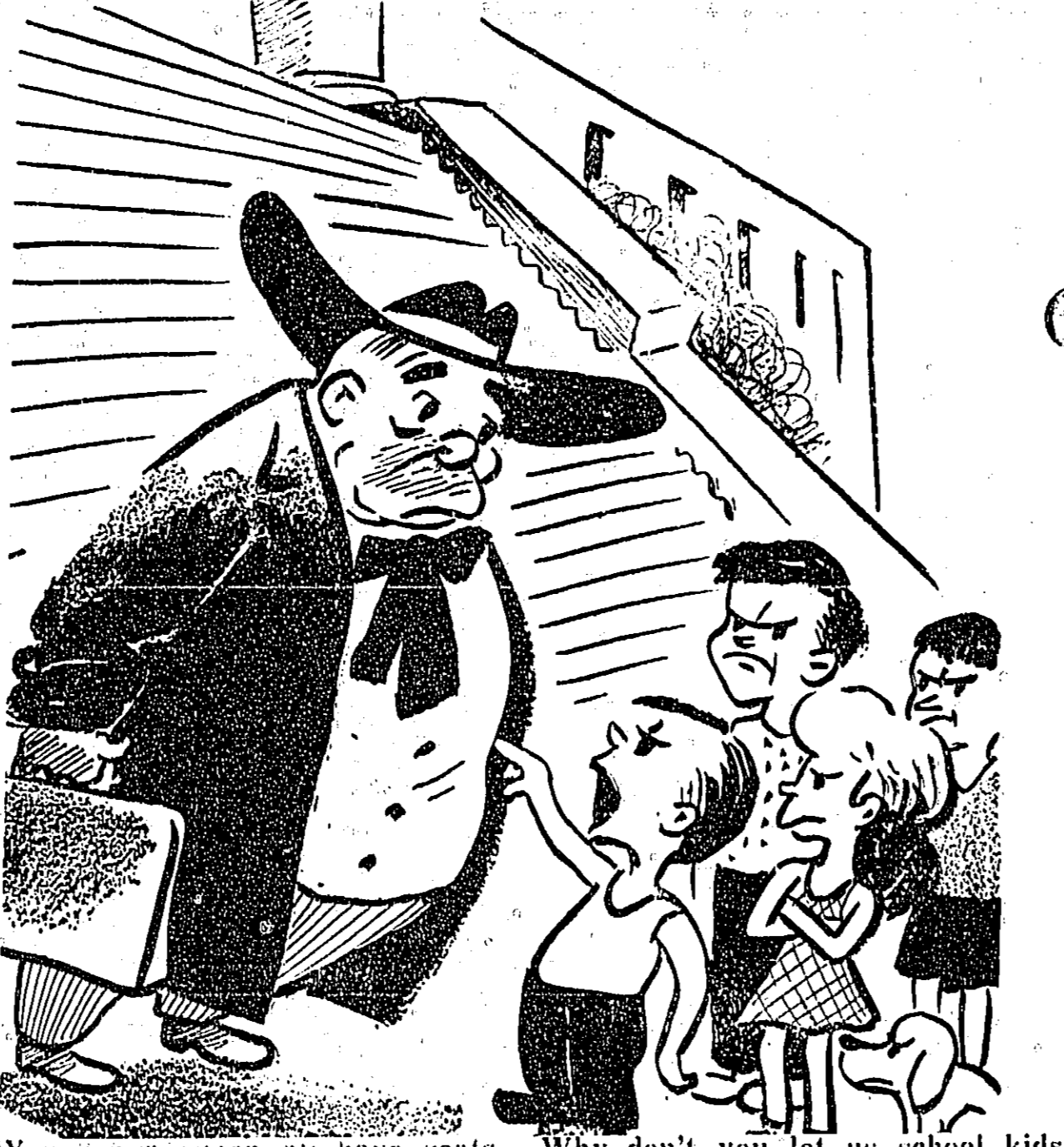
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mittie, while refusing to answer questions, Emspak stated, "I think it is my duty to endeavor to protect the rights guaranteed under the Constitution, primarily the first amendment."

It has been held time and again, that the law which gives persons the right to refuse to answer questions was meant to protect the innocent and not shield the guilty. There is no legal jurisdiction for the conclusion that anyone, who refuses to answer questions discussing his political beliefs or even whether or not he is a Communist, must be one. As a practical matter, to allow the inference of guilt would destroy the protection given by the Constitution. To assume otherwise, would be to assume that innocent people are never accused of crimes.

This is a question which the Supreme Court will have to consider and decide once and for all.

CONGRESSMAN DRIPP



"You congressmen all have seats. Why don't you let us school kids have enough room to sit, too?"

District Delegates Elected

Delegates to U.E. District 3 were elected at the October Membership Meeting held last Monday, October 19th. They were: William Stewart, Bldg. 273; Philip Mastriani, Bldg. 73; William Christman, Bldg. 52; William Brown, Bldg. 273, 2nd shift.

The District Council will hold its next meeting in Buffalo on October 30 and 31.

Dam Construction Up To Voters

The November 3rd elections will decide who will have the authority to approve construction of dams in our forest preserve.

The 9th Amendment proposed to the voters will decide the question. If you vote "Yes" for the Amendment, it means you want the people of New York to decide when our forests and streams are to be tampered with. If you vote "No", you give the right to river regulating boards.

Our local Union went on record last year in favor of taking the authority from regulating boards and giving it to the people. There are many reasons why you should vote "Yes" on this Amendment:

1. The people of the State of New York will have the right to build dams when necessary.
2. It will eliminate the construction of dams for private purpose on State owned land.
3. Removes the authority from the river regulating boards to do as they wish without regard for the people.

The fish and game clubs have gone on record in favor of the Amendment.

In order to prevent destruction of our forest preserve by private and commercial interests, vote "Yes" on the last Amendment, #9. The Adirondack and Catskill Mountains are part of our natural resources; we should protect them.

Meet UE Members— Candidates for Office

Henry J. Burke, Supervisor of the 9th Ward, is running for reelection on the Republican Ticket for that post.

Henry has been a member of U.E. Local 301 for years. He is employed as a machinist in the Steam Turbine Department. He has approximately 5 years' service with the G.E. Company.

While serving as a member of the County Board of Supervisors, he acted as Chairman of the Health and Sanitation Committee, the Welfare Committee and the Board's Education and Veterans' Committee.

Larry Schilling, Supervisor of the 10th Ward, is running for reelection on the Republican Ticket for that post.

Larry has been a member of the U.E. for many years; he was a shop steward for 6 years and a member of the Executive Board of U.E. Local 301. He is presently employed as a Mechanical Inspector in the Steam Turbine Department. He has approximately 35 years of service with the Company.

While on the Board of Supervisors, Larry acted on various committees of the County Board: Finance and Budget Committee, Chairman of Municipal Coordination Committee, Insurance Committee, and Director of Soil Conservation.

Leland Thomas is seeking reelection for Justice of Peace in the Town of Rotterdam on the Democratic Ticket.

Leland is a member of U.E. Local 301 and is employed as an inspector in the Industrial Control Department. He has been at G.E. for approximately 36 years. Leland has been a shop steward in U.E. Local 301 for over 3 years.

Leland has been Justice of Peace in Rotterdam for the past 8 years.

Emil Borquist is seeking reelection for Councilman in the Town of Rotterdam on the Republican Ticket.

Emil has been a member of U.E. Local 301 since the union started. He is employed in the Transportation Department as an Inspector. He has approximately 32 years of service at G.E.

While serving as Town Councilman, he has acted on several committees handling problems affecting Sanitation, Parks and Fire Departments. He is completing his 4th term as Councilman.

Joseph Mangino is running for election as Supervisor of the 2nd Ward on the Democratic Ticket.

Joe has been a member of the U.E. for many years. He was elected Vice-President of U.E. Local 301 and also served on the Union's Executive Board for two terms. He served three years as shop steward. He is employed as a Boring Mill Operator in Bldg. 49, Gas Turbine, and has approximately 13 years' service with the Company.

Joe is a veteran of World War II and this is the first time he has ever run for public office.

Money Did the Talking Last Nov.

As an editorial in the United Mine Workers Journal Oct. 15 says, "Organized labor has the votes, but big business has the money, and in politics it would seem the latter is of at least equal value."

The remark is occasioned by a study of campaign gifts in the 1952 elections published by Congressional Quarterly.

As revealed in statements filed with Congress, gifts totaled \$23 million, making last year's election "the most costly in U. S. history" in more ways than one.

The law requires that only congressional candidates and political groups spending in two or more states on congressional or Presidential candidates must file reports. There is no way of estimating the millions spent within each state which didn't have to be reported.

Republican groups and candidates reporting to Congress said they spent \$13.8 million. Democratic

CIO Warns Pres. Eisenhower On Disguised Sales Taxes

Stanley H. Ruttenberg, CIO director of education, Oct. 16 warned President Eisenhower that any attempt to put across a manufacturers' sales tax on a wide base will be interpreted

Members Approve Convention Report

The delegates to the 18th Convention of the U.E. made their report to the membership last Monday, October 19th. The report which was approved carried with it the approval of an amendment to the National Constitution increasing the Per Capita Tax from \$.75 to \$1.00. The National Trustees will tabulate the vote coming in from all U.E. Locals on November 14th.

The delegates also reported on the G.E. Conference Board which was held in Chicago the day prior to the opening of the convention. The Conference Board's recommendations were approved unanimously by the members.

Steward Wins Case

Shop steward Ray Rodd won a grievance against Foreman Wheeler on the application of the contract affecting payment of overtime premium in Bldg. 265.

One employee who was working 12 midnight to 8:00 A.M. was asked to work overtime for 4 hours beyond his regular quitting time Monday morning. The foreman offered straight time for the overtime. The shop steward filed a grievance and the employee received his time and one-half for the 4 hours on Monday.

Ruttenberg pointed out that Eisenhower has already endorsed the general manufacturers' tax and that Halleck's announcement makes the danger more grave. After issuing his warning to Eisenhower, he continued:

"On the other hand, any effort made by the administration to shuffle existing excise taxes on the grounds that they are 'a hodge-podge of inequities' is nothing more than to compound the existing inequities. You do not eliminate inequities by extending them. They can be eliminated only by removing them."

Carboly Placement Nearly Complete

As a result of the Special Metals Department moving to Michigan, approximately 240 people were affected.

The Union has found jobs in other departments for approximately 200 of the employees affected so far. The deadline for placement has been extended to January 1st, 1954, to find jobs for the remaining employees.



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. 67: R. Fuller is employed as a Class "B" Electrician. He claims the type of work he is required to do justifies Class "A" classification.

Bldg. 53: E. Damassa is classified as a Handyman. He requests an upgrade to a higher class of work.

Bldg. 18: P. Gaar and J. Torillio are complaining because they were offered a day work rate for a certain part of their job. They are piece workers and demand prices.

Bldg. 11: The group of Accumulators under Foreman Des Javins are complaining because they are required to do work out of their classification.

Bldg. 18: The group under Foreman Whiting have been working less than 40 hours a week. They are requesting a reduction of forces.

Bldg. 269: The group working under Foreman Buksa assigned to 0019, 0133 and 3022 tubes and who are assigned to diversified assembly request a Class "A" classification.

Bldg. 269: J. Donohue is charging a violation of Agreement on reduction of forces. She claims a shorter service employee remained on the job.

Bldg. 29: D. Ruminiecki is requesting an increase in rate. The group she services was increased. She wants the same differential in rate that was in effect before.

Bldg. 81: The group under Foreman Choleva request the new adjusted timing rates be applied in accordance with the agreement reached with management.

Bldg. 273: The Welders working under Foreman Ferro are complaining about the application of reduction of forces.

Bldg. 52: R. Redmond is classified as a helper in a Tool Crib. He requests an upgrade to Class "C".

Bldg. 60: The group under Foreman Belak are complaining about the conditions involved during break-in period. They claim the instructions are not proper or adequate.

Bldg. 273: The group of Radial Drill Press Operators under Foreman Rose are complaining about

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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Local 301

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