

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE - AFL-CIO

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OVER 600 HONOR LEO JANDREAU AT TESTIMONIAL LEO MADE PATROON BY MAYOR ELLIS LAST SATURDAY

An enthusiastic crowd of over 600 friends, including many leading citizens from civic, religious and labor groups, turned out last Sat. Evening to pay tribute to Leo Jandreau who was cited for his "dedication and service to the working men and women in Schenectady and to the Community as a whole" over the past quarter of a century.

HIGHLIGHTS OF LEO'S CAREER

Leo Jandreau, a native of Schenectady, attended Nott Terrace High School. His first job was as a Junior Accountant at G.E. In 1922 he transferred to the factory where he learned his trade as a toolmaker. He then helped organize Local 301 and thus began a colorful career in the labor movement, where he devoted his energy and skills to improving the working conditions of the working men and women in the community. In 1934, he was elected Recording Secretary of the Local and in 1935 became President. On Dec. 15th of that same year, an NLRB election was held in the plant and the Local became the bargaining agent for a majority of the employees.

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WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETS AT IUE HALL-OVER 50 ATTEND

Betty Dodo, a representative of the N.Y. State AFL-CIO, chaired a meeting of the Women's Activities Committee at IUE Hall, last Wed. evening, January 20th, 1960.

All female members and wives of union members were invited and close to 50 women attended.

The Women's Activities Dept. (WAD) is a part of COPE's regular organization. It was authorized by the AFL-CIO's 1st Constitutional Convention which directed COPE "to continue to strengthen its program for integrating the family voter into the political action program of our organization." WAD operates on national, State, county, city and Congressional Dist. levels. Any women interested in taking part in this worthwhile cause can contact Art Christopher at Union Office or call EXpress 3-1386.

Despite the hazardous driving conditions, every seat in the huge IUE Auditorium was filled and the testimonial dinner, which will long be remembered, got under way about 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Malcom Ellis cited Jandreau as an outstanding citizen who has contributed so much to the well being of the Community and bestowed upon him the honorable title of Patroon.

Rep. Samuel S. Stratton lauded Leo for his "dedicated service to the labor movement and to the community and named him as probably "the outstanding Business Agent in the Country for 1960."

John Callahan noted that Leo started his career in the labor movement "when union organizers were looked upon as outcasts in the Community and when it took a lot of GUTS to stand up to one's convictions". He also praised Leo for his perseverance courage and great leadership ability in his struggle to raise the standard of living for all working men and women in the Community and elsewhere in the Nation.

Jack Suarez described Leo as a "staunch Labor Leader for the workers in Sch'dy., the State and the Nation".

Father Lamanna said that Jandreau was almost like a God to the union members with whom he became associated

Al Hartnett, Secy-Treas. of the International IUE, was the principal speaker and praised Leo for the courage and fine leadership he showed over the past quarter of a century, when leaders like he were hard to obtain. He also gave a big share of the credit for Leo's success to his wife, Ruth, and his family "who worked for him behind the scenes" through their devotion and encouragement.

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STEEL UNION CONTRACT GAINS SPELLED OUT

Here are the highlights of the 30-month contract won by the Steelworkers in negotiations with the basic steel industry:

Wages—There is no direct wage increase the first year, but the change to a non-contributory insurance program (described below) will give workers an immediate 7-cent hourly increase in take-home pay.

Effective Dec. 1, 1960, and again on Oct. 1, 1961, workers will receive a basic 7-cent increase. In addition, the contract provides for a 0.2-cent-per-hour hike in each job classification with the first raise, and a 0.1-cent-per-hour hike with the second. Including the impact on incentives this will mean a 0.4-cent rise at the end of this year and 8.6 cents in the fall of 1961.

Cost-of-Living—The existing 17-cent hourly cost-of-living adjustment is continued in effect, and workers can receive up to 6 cents an hour more over the life of the contract, depending on movement of the Labor Dept.'s Consumer Price Index.

Work Rules—Present clauses in the agreements dealing with local working conditions are retained intact. Three additions have been made:

1. Settlement of a grievance prior to arbitration shall not constitute a precedent in the settlement of other grievances.

2. "Each party shall as a matter of policy encourage the prompt settlement of problems in this area by mutual agreement at the local level."

3. A joint committee, headed by a neutral chairman, will be created in each company to study local working conditions and to make recommendations before Nov. 30, 1960.

Human Relations Research Committee—A joint committee will be set up to recommend "guides for the determination of equitable wage and benefit adjustment," and to study job classifications, wage incentives, seniority, medical care and other overall problems.

Insurance—In addition to making the insurance program non-contributory, the contract improves it by lifting the scale of life insurance to a maximum of \$8,500 per employe, raising the maximum weekly sickness and accident benefit to \$68, and continuing company contributions for an employe for six months after layoff.

Pensions—The settlement establishes a special retirement payment equal to 13 weeks of pay—estimated at \$1,500—in addition to the monthly pension.

Pension benefits are increased to \$2.50 per month for each year of service prior to Jan. 1, 1960, and \$2.60 for each year thereafter, and the limitation on the years of service credited towards pensions is raised from 30 to 35 years. In addition, full retirement pensions will be paid employes 55 or over with 20 years of service who lose their jobs because of permanent shutdown, layoff or sickness. Present retirees receive an im-

mediate \$5 pension hike.

Supplemental Unemployment Benefits—The present SUB program is renewed on the same basis as before, with the companies putting in 3 cents an hour plus I.O.U.'s of another 2 cents an hour. This restores the contingent liability—composed of industry's I.O.U.'s paid in over recent years—which the industry had canceled July 14.

Union Security—The union shop is continued under the new contract, and in all "right-to-work" states (except Alabama, where the agency shop is also outlawed).

Attention All Women!

There will be a meeting of the NY State Women's Activity Committee, Wednesday, at 7:30 P.M. at the IUE Auditorium. All female members of Local 301, and wives of members are invited to attend. Movies will be shown.

Don't Miss It

HEAR McDonald and Sec'y Mitchell discuss the Steel Settlement on "Labor Looks at the News"

"LABOR LOOKS AT THE NEWS"

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tries to this community.

6. We need the liberalization of the unemployment insurance benefits which will insure payments to workers while this conversion process is going on.

With the concerted efforts of labor, the business community, local officials and the aid of the Federal Government, there will be created the emergency team dedicated to redevelop this community into a thriving industrial center supporting the growth and advance of the American people.

We cannot do this through local efforts—the Congress of the United States must pass the legislation needed for this action. We call upon you to recommend and support such federal legislation which would give us adequate and immediate relief on these vital matters which I have referred to in this statement.

assistance as is provided by the Area Redevelopment Program passed by the Senate and the House Banking and Currency Committee.

2. We need the federal contracts which can convert the idle facilities into immediate work.

3. We need the assistance necessary to modernize our community facilities so that the area will be better adapted to modern industrial needs.

4. We need funds for a Rehabilitation Program for re-training displaced workers for the new skills and manufacturing techniques that are constantly being created in industry every day.

5. We need the expansion of research facilities at Union College or R.P.I. which can offer research aid which would attract the advanced industrial processes and the feeder indus-

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ly waiting five years already for a steady job that will afford them a decent standard of living.

AREA NEEDS HELP

The great need is for assistance in helping to replan our economic future and for the allocation of government contracts which would provide us with employment while we are working on the new pattern of economic growth. The present leadership which heads the GUTS (Gear up for Tomorrow in Schenectady) organization is seeking new companies through advertising and other publicity. That is all for the good. We have positive resources, both human and capital in this community. But what we need in addition is federal aid.

1. We need the type of technical