

IUE Local 301 to Be Host to Inductees Leaving for Armed Forces April 26

Upcoming Events

The following meetings are scheduled to take place at IUE Local 301 Union Headquarters, 301 Liberty St.:

- Executive Board Meeting**
Monday, April 25, 1955
7:30 P.M.
- Shop Stewards Meeting**
Monday, May 2, 1955
7:30 P.M.
- Pensioners Meeting**
Tuesday, May 3, 1955
1:30 P.M.

Electrician Group Upgrade Procedure

The procedure for upgrading Advanced Helpers to Electrician Class "B" was agreed to include all three groups of helpers, rather than by individual groups, as a result of a meeting with management last week.

It had been supervision's intention to upgrade among each of the three groups, machine tool wireman, light wireman and construction wireman. Management has now agreed to upgrade from the top of the list plant-wide. The list is made up according to the date each Advanced Helper received the job rate which is on an automatic progression.

It was further agreed to supply the Union office with a plant-wide list covering these groups and to notify the Union of any helper that might refuse the upgrade along with the reason for refusal. The Company and the Union will meet again in six months to review the situation.

The Union representatives at the meeting were Bill Templeton, George Diemer, Robert Stock, Bill Mastriani, Miles Moon and Assistant Business Agent Roy Schaffer.

IUE Local 301, as a member of the Mayor's Committee for Going Away Inductees, will take its turn Tuesday, April 26th, in playing host to the men and women who are being inducted or enlisted in the Armed Forces.

The Committee, probably the only one of its kind in New York State, besides the Mayor, City Manager and Council, is composed of numerous religious, labor, civic and fraternal organizations. Financial contributions from these organizations make it possible for the community to show in a concrete manner a measure of their appreciation to the men and women who are serving our city and country.

The Inductees will leave from the Elks Club where coffee and doughnuts will be available for them and their families. Each inductee will be presented with a zipper bag with leather nameplate containing toilet articles, sewing kit, etc.

IUE Local 301 officers will represent the Union and the group will also be addressed briefly by Mayor Wemple, Rev. J. Finn, Rev. Swartout and Rabbi Goldstein.

450 To Be Placed

(Continued from Page 1).

had approximately 400 employees with service ranging up to 39 years.

Along with the letter, a list giving the names and service dates of the employees affected was attached. The Specialty Control Department is being transferred to Waynesboro, Va., while the General Purpose Control Department is to be transferred to Bloomington, Ill.

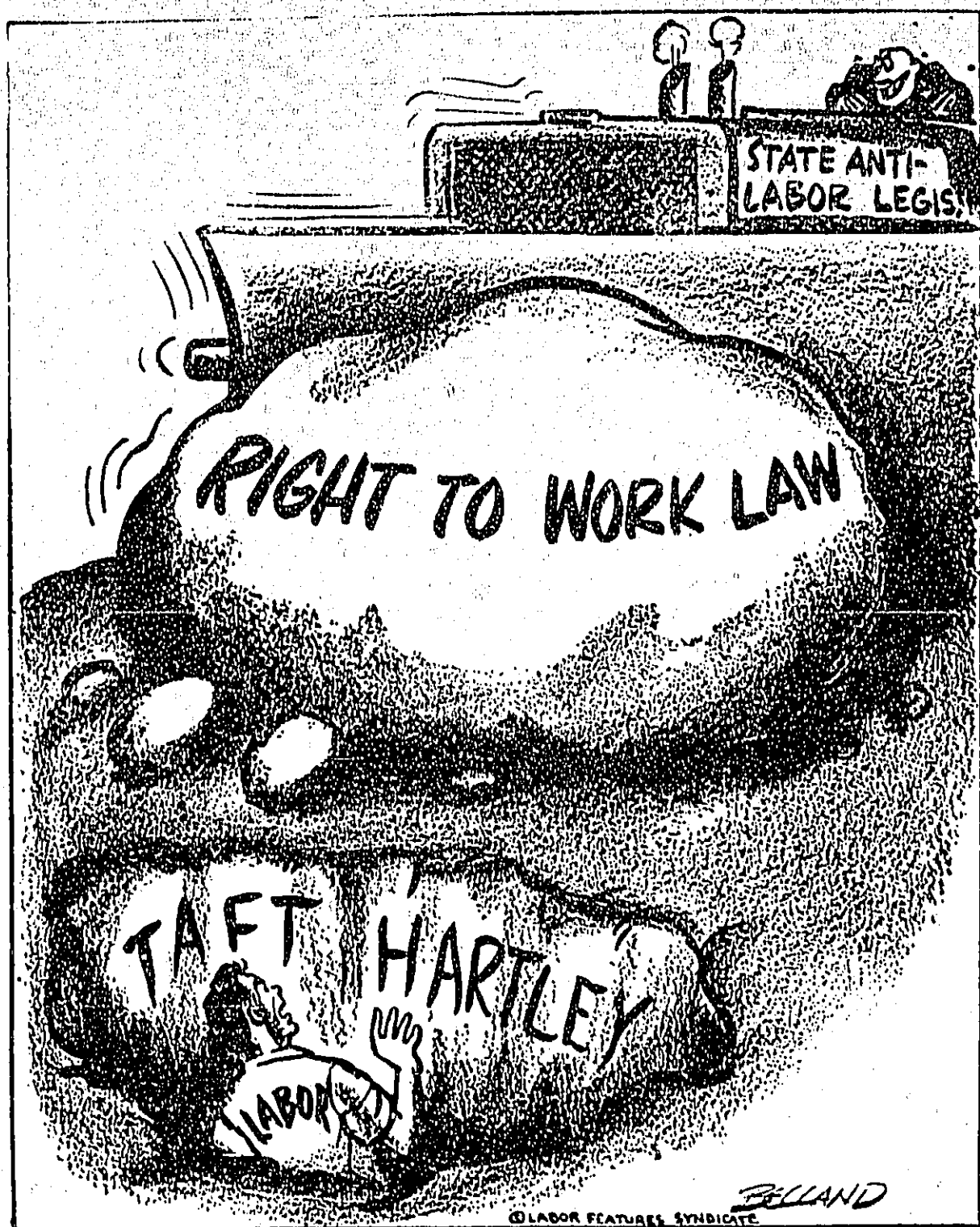


Satisfactory Settlement of 11 Points Best Answer

Here is IUE-CIO's 11 point program for G.E. workers:

1. Guaranteed annual employment
2. Substantial wage increase
3. 1.25 chain-wide minimum hiring rate
4. Equal pay for equal work
5. Restoration of the profit-sharing plan
6. Improvements in pensions and insurance
7. Improvements in holidays
8. Better vacation plan
9. Sick and death leave
10. More protection for incentive workers
11. Union shop

A Proposal Acceptable to GE Workers Will Prevent Labor Trouble



Mica Strikers Ask IUE Support

A delegation of U.E. members has come to IUE Local 301, requesting support of their strike at the Mica Company, which has been going on for several weeks. While the Executive Board has not taken action on their request as yet, it seems to us that the Mica workers should first try to help themselves before requesting the aid of others.

First, they are members of a dying organization that is not in any position to properly represent them. The U.E. nationally has been seeking a haven in the main labor movement by applying to the AFL and CIO for admittance, but without success. The Mica workers have an opportunity to join the CIO by signing applications. Then we can petition the NLRB for an election while the contract is terminated. If the contract is renewed before a petition for an election is filed, the Mica workers will not be permitted to leave U.E. until the contract expires or for at least one year.

We in the CIO have no interest in perpetuating the U.E. and we have no legal status to intervene in the strike unless the Mica workers give us the interest we need by applying for membership. Membership cards are available at Union Headquarters. — If you know any Mica workers, advise them to sign up.

LOOK FOR THE UNION LABEL!

Thanks to Union

Joe McKenney, sports editor of the Boston, Mass., Post, has been named director of public relations for the Boston Red Sox.

He wrote to the Boston Local of the CIO Newspaper Guild, including a contribution in appreciation for what the Guild had done for him. "I make this donation," he said, "as an inadequate but nonetheless grateful contribution to a great organization. Thanks to the Guild for past counsel, services and kindness." He asked for an honorary membership card.

A 'First' for Meany

AFL President George Meany addressed a CIO union for the first time when he spoke at the meeting of the United Steelworkers' executive board in Washington. "The whole idea" of the trade union movement, he said, "is unity." He added: "I think we can with confidence look at this merger and its effects on the future."

For Pensioners

In GE negotiations IUE-CIO will seek for pensioners:

1. Return of the 1952 Social Security increase, which GE deducted.
2. Full credit for all time worked, regardless of break in employment.
3. Full hospitalization and surgical protection.

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE CIO

Vol. 1 — No. 48

The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y.

May 6, 1955

Gloversville Strike Settled

Immediately after the Gloversville strike settlement GE's propaganda pushers ran scared to try and convince GE workers that the strike resulted in disaster for the glove workers. They even went further and tried to imply some sinister reason was behind the business agent's resignation following the strike.

The truth of the matter is, the Business Agent, Gordon Blake, at the age of 71 years, retired because of his age and health, after a job well done in leading the strikers to victory. This fact was made known to IUE Local 301 in a letter from Brother Blake in which he further pointed out that the 2 week strike was the first major labor disturbance in 21 years on the part of the glove makers.

Clarence Hallenbeck, now Business Agent of this Local, 1714, ACW of A-CIO, in a joint statement with the former Business Agent, Gordon Blake, told Local 301 of the demands won from the 2 week strike. These included: 2 weeks vacation with pay; 5 paid holidays and major increases in the insurance and hospitalization plan including an additional \$750.00 death benefit and \$20.00 sick pay. **AND A UNION SHOP!**

"It looks like the Gloversville employees' basic American right to decide for themselves to join or not to join an organization, has been washed down the drain" stated GE's editorial in the following Friday's "GE Work News". If this were true, then all Americans lost that right when they were made eligible to be drafted into the Armed Forces! Ridiculous, of course!

GE's position on the Union Shop is in fact a contradiction of a Supreme Court decision, the law of the land. Details of the Court's decision are told on this same page.

IUE Local 301 Host to Army Inductees



IUE LOCAL 301 OFFICERS are shown bidding farewell to the men leaving for the Army after the ceremonies conducted at the Elks Club last week. Business Agent Leo Jandreau was M.C. at the occasion.

Leo Jandreau was master of ceremonies at the Elks Club as IUE-CIO Local 301 took its turn as sponsor in honoring the men leaving from Schenectady for service in the Armed Forces last week.

Surrogate William Campbell told the draftees that 2,700 men have been honored since the Going Away Inductees Committee was organized in December 1950. Local 301 was one of the original members of the committee which has spent over \$17,000 to give travel bags to the men leaving for service without ever having to conduct a public solicitation.

Officials who spoke to the group were: Mayor A. C. Wemple, Major Clyde Wadman of the Salvation Army, Rabbi Sidney I. Goldstein, and Rev. John Finn.

Local Donates Camera to Girl Scouts



PRESIDENT JAMES COGNETTA, on behalf of IUE Local 301, is shown presenting a 16mm movie camera to Mrs. Ralph Marwill, Chairman of Public Relations for Schenectady County Girl Scout Council.

Thanks from all Schenectady's Girl Scouts was Mrs. Ralph Marwill's message to members of IUE Local 301 as last Friday she accepted a Bell & Howell 16mm Movie Camera for use of the Schenectady Girl Scout Council.

The camera will be of immeasurable help, she said, in showing training films both for leaders and troops. It will also be used to show movies at summer camp and for troop entertainment.

IUE Local 301 membership approved purchase of the movie camera at last month's meeting, after previous recommendation of the Executive Board.

Refuses Union; Court Rules No Benefits

A workman who lost his job in a union shop because he refused to join the union was properly disqualified when he applied for unemployment benefits, was the ruling of Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, Third Department.

The opinion, in which all of the justices concurred, was written by Justice Francis Bergan.

The court supported the determination that the action of the worker constituted a voluntary leaving of employment without good cause, and ordered reversal of a contrary decision by the Unemployment Insurance Appeal Board.

"We cannot wall ourselves off from the realities of the present day industrial scene to decide unemployment insurance cases as though we dealt in abstractions", Justice Bergan wrote.

In part, his opinion was:

"The labor union is a legitimate and quite universally utilized instrument by which labor and management live and work together. When there is an effective union agreement with the employee by which membership in good standing is a necessary ingredient to continued employment, a man who chooses not to have union membership necessarily chooses not to have to work in that shop."

"Refusal of a worker to join a union under such circumstances", Bergan said, "amounts to an election by the employee not to meet a condition of the work".

FIELD DAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 19th, 1955

At Republican Park, Princetown Road

There will be a full day of activities, such as Vaudeville Acts, games, the drawing of a girl's and boy's gate award and the 21 other valuable prizes listed below:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Ladies Certified Diamond Ring | 12. Rotisserie (Black Angus) |
| 2. Aluminum Boat | 13. Twin Brush Waxer |
| 3. Automatic Clothes Dryer | 14. Portable Phonograph (4 speed) |
| 4. 5 H.P. Motor (Johnson Sea Horse) | 15. Floor Circulating Fan |
| 5. Box Trailer | 16. Clock Radio |
| 6. Golf Club Outfit | 17. Portable Radio |
| 7. Reclining Chair and Stool | 18. Martha Washington Bed-spread |
| 8. Three Piece Luggage | 19. Man's Electric Razor |
| 9. Power Lawn Mower | 20. Fishing Outfit |
| 10. Swivel Top Cleaner | 21. Steam Iron |
| 11. Lane Cedar Chest | |

Tickets at 3 for 50c available Monday, May 9th
SEE YOUR SHOP STEWARD

Wm. Meigs Heads 301 Pensioners

William E. Meigs, who formerly worked in Bldg. 273, was selected as temporary chairman of IUE 301's Pensioners at a reorganizational meeting held at Union Hall last Tuesday.

Many women were among the large group of pensioners that attended. Pres. Cognetta and Chief Shop Steward Mastriani addressed the meeting. The pensioners' stake in the coming negotiations, especially women, was stressed in the discussion. It was pointed out that the pensioners have full access to IUE Local 301's hall and may call on the Local for help in any of their problems.

Arrangements for the meeting, which included refreshments, were made by Executive Board Members Larry Gebro and William Stewart.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 7th, at 1:30 p.m., at IUE Local 301 Hall, 301 Liberty St. Refreshments will be served and election of permanent officers conducted at that time.

New Shop Stewards

Three Shop Stewards of IUE Local 301 were sworn in by Guide Mario Bagnato at last Monday's Shop Steward meeting. The new Stewards are Warren A. Philp, Bldg. 265; Ernest G. Healy, Bldg. 273 and William G. De Marco, Bldg. 109.

G.E. Negotiations Committee Meets

The National G.E. Negotiations Committee held a meeting in Washington on Monday of this week to review the GE-IUE contract and recommend improvements. The committee will make recommendations to the General Electric Company which will meet in Cincinnati, Ohio, on May 10th.

The contract improvements are separate from the 11 major points that will be presented to the General Electric Company in the coming negotiations that will begin some time in July. Among the proposals for contract improvements the committee will recommend stronger union recognition and a Union Shop. The committee will propose that Article IV of the contract include protection against discrimination against women on setting rates for their jobs.

The committee believes that the time has come when employees working on continuous process operations should be paid the same overtime premium as the production workers. At present power station and other continuous process operators are not paid double time for Sunday and they lose holiday pay when holidays fall on their scheduled days off.

The General Electric Company at the present time guarantees only 4 hours pay to employees who report for work and find that no work is available. The committee will recommend that at least 8 hours at regular earnings be paid on report time.

On Article VI, Wage Rates, the committee is making several proposals affecting the establishment of standard prices automatically after 6 months and also more protection for incentive earnings when they are obliged to change jobs for various reasons.

The committee will propose that the contract provide the current rates in effect rather than the 1951 base rates with respect to progression and step rates. Automatic progression in the higher rated occupations, such as Toolmakers and Building Trades should include all other occupations that carry equal rates.

The committee will propose that seniority shall be the major factor in upgrading to higher rated jobs and seniority shall be the major factor for shift preference in time transfer or lack of work. The present requirements for eligibility on being paid for holidays shall be lifted as well as improvements guaranteeing continuity of service in time of lay-off due to lack of work.

The provisions in the contract that protect seniority will be strengthened along with additional protection for Union stewards and officers.

The committee in its deliberation made every effort to keep the contract changes to a minimum in order that the main emphasis can be made on the 11 major points that will be presented to the Company.

1955 "Give Away" A Huge Success

Ralph Pipe, Chairman of IUE Local 301's Activities Committee, reports a new record in donations to the "Give Away Program", and extends the thanks of the Committee to the membership for making the activity such a huge success.

A final payment of \$800.00 for a previous 3 year contract of sponsorship by Local 301 of 2 Little League baseball teams was made as a result of the financial success. IUE Local 301 is again this year sponsor of one team in the Northside Little League and one team in the Bellevue Little League.

The balance of the fund raised will be used to supplement the amount of money needed to provide the annual Christmas Party this year for children of IUE Local 301 members.

Dividends Rise 6%

Cash dividend payments reported by corporations were 6% higher in March than a year earlier, totalling 1,353,000,000, the Commerce Dept. reported last month.

This completed a first quarter in which dividend payments publicly reported by corporations totalled 2,335,000,000. This also was 6% higher than in the first quarter of 1954.

Discrimination based on race, color, religion, natural origin, age or sex impairs our chance of survival.—Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell.

Satisfactory Settlement of 11 Points Best Answer

Here is IUE-CIO's 11 point program for G.E. workers:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Guaranteed annual employment | 6. Improvements in pensions and insurance |
| 2. Substantial wage increase | 7. Improvements in holidays |
| 3. 1.25 chain-wide minimum hiring rate | 8. Better vacation plan |
| 4. Equal pay for equal work | 9. Sick and death leave |
| 5. Restoration of the profit-sharing plan | 10. More protection for incentive workers |
| | 11. Union shop |

A Proposal Acceptable to GE Workers Will Prevent Labor Trouble

Aeronautics Department Meeting Regular Meetings To Be Scheduled

The Aeronautics Department held a business meeting last Thursday evening with refreshments afterward. Allen Townsend chaired the meeting while Joseph Drozdowski and Toni Smith acted as co-chairmen. Many questions were asked by the members pertaining to grievances and application of the contract. Leo Jandreau, Business Agent, spoke at the meeting and explained some of the many problems facing the Union, particularly the lack of work situation and the transferring of thousands of employees from departments that are hard hit with lack of work to busier departments. The problem of placing these people on suitable jobs, trying to maintain earnings and shift preference poses a terrific task for our organization, the Business Agent pointed out.

Among several motions passed was one to hold department meetings in the Aeronautics Department regularly. The members enjoyed the food and beverages which were provided as a result of selling tickets in the department at a nominal cost.

Only two countries, the United States and New Zealand, have a generally established 40-hour work week. A 48-hour week prevails in most other industrial nations.

Upcoming Events

The following meetings are scheduled to take place at IUE Local 301 Union Headquarters, 301 Liberty St.:

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Monday, May 9, 1955
7:30 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Monday, May 16, 1955
1:00 p.m. (2nd shift)
7:30 p.m. (1st & 3rd shift)

WOMEN'S MEETING
Wednesday, May 25, 1955
7:30 p.m.

IUE Local 301 . . . Meet Your Executive Board

Joseph Sickinger, Bldg. 273

A Boring Mill Operator with 14 years of service, Joe represents a section of Turbine Division on 1st shift.

He is presently a member of the Local's committee on discharge cases. During World War II he served in the U. S. Navy and saw duty in the North Atlantic. He is a member of the American Legion Post 960, Albany, and The Holy Name Society of St. Margaret Mary in Albany also.

Joe and his wife, Marion, live at 654 Beach Ave., Albany, with their two children: Lawrence, age 12 and Joseph, age 10.



The Convenient Year of 1939

On the strength of figures don't lie, certain people find it convenient to use them when in the process of whitewashing their dirty linen. General Electric chose 1939 to make their case on buying sympathy for full employment. They say employment at G.E. rose to 113% over 1939.

TAILOR MADE ANSWER

The local management has been very reluctant to give employment figures to the Union on several occasions when the request was made. However, in the annual financial reports of the Company the Union was able to obtain employment figures on a company-wide basis which give ample reason why 1939 was a convenient year to use to show growth of employment and get a tailor-made answer. The General Electric Company employed 71,485 people in 1939. This was 16,448 less than the number of people General Electric employed during 1929, which was 87,933. The year of 1929 was considered a good year and industry was producing peacetime products. Employment by General Electric had dropped off approximately 19% during this 10-year

period between 1929 and 1939. However, using the figures publicized by local G.E. management of 15,800 employed in Schenectady in 1939, this represents over 22% of the total G.E. Company employment on a company wide basis. In this case we do not fare as well in 1955 as we did back in 1939 because there were 210,151 employed by General Electric during the year of 1954. Using the same percentage (22%) of the total G.E. employment working in Schenectady during 1939, we would have approximately 46,233 employed here at the present time. The Works News says we have 33,750 on the Schenectady plant. The Works News says we are critical, and why not—12,483 more working in Schenectady is good for Schenectadians and this community.

SCH'DY GE LAGS BEHIND

General Electric's employment has increased approximately 300% since 1939 on a company-wide basis. The Works News, trying hard to make you think everything is being done pro-Schenectady when plans are underway to move jobs out of town, shows an employment increase of 113%

over 1939.

We say, no matter how thin you slice it or what basis you use to show employment at the Schenectady G.E. plant, we have a smaller percentage of the total G.E. employees working in Schenectady than we had 16 years ago.

ONLY SCRATCHED THE SURFACE

We say the present program of the General Electric Company does not intend to establish employment percentage-wise in the old locations based on 1939 or on any other year particularly, and to confirm this statement, we quote Mr. A. F. Vinson, Vice-President of Manufacturing, when he said the following on 4/21/54, in Schenectady: "As a matter of fact, 55 percent of our people are in only 7 plant cities where we employ 10,000 to 40,000 people." The recent trend is definitely toward smaller plant-smaller town operations. So far as decentralization of people, we have merely scratched the surface."

Can you blame us for being critical — those 12,000 employees would add millions to the Schenectady annual payroll.

IUE-CIO 301 On The Job

IUE Local 302 handles thousands of grievances at all levels each year. Example cases, not settled at steward-foreman level, to be processed at management level, are usually listed in the Local 301 News.

The column has been omitted this week because of space limitations.

IUE Local 301 . . . Meet Your Executive Board

Ralph Vitallo, Bldg. 273

Ralph is a Machine Repairman with 8 years of service and represents a section of Turbine Division on 2nd shift.

He has been active in many Union affairs and has served on the Election, Appeals, and Activities Committees. Despite his many Union activities, Ralph find enough time to play golf and shoots in the low 70's.

Ralph and his wife Mildred live at 124 Steinmetz Homes, Schenectady, with their three children: Margaret, age 15, Russell, age-12 and Michael, age 3.



IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301, REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee
President.....James J. Cognetta
Vice President.....Joseph Alois
Treasurer.....Joseph Whitbeck
Recording Secretary.....Miles Moon
Ass't Recording Secretary.....Allen E. Townsend
Chief Shop Steward.....William Mastriani
Business Agent.....Leo Jandreau
301 LIBERTY ST. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.