

Seniority Violations Protested by Board

The 301 Executive Board met with Works Manager Lewis J. Male Aug. 25 to protest against about the company's violations of contract seniority provisions in connection with transfers for lack of work and with reductions of the force.

The union representatives pointed out that the company is not trying to find comparable jobs, based on length of service, for laid off workers, but in many cases simply offers existing openings. Apparently management is reluctant to carry out the "bumping" provision of the contract which protect seniority.

Here's an Example

As an example of management's failure to find comparable jobs for workers, the union cited the case of a man with 10 years service who was taken off piece work on first shift, at which he was earning about two dollars an hour, and put on day work on the third shift. He not only took a licking on wages, the union complained, but was subjected to the inconvenience of the third shift hours. Yet men with only one year service were allowed to continue working first shift on piece work.

The Board also reported that women with 1943 service are still

out of work while women with shorter service have jobs. Moreover, the Board told Male, the information given to the 301 office several weeks ago by A. C. Stevens, assistant to the works manager, about the number of women with shorter service still in the plant has proved incorrect. The company list left out many of the women. At the request of Business Agent Leo Jandreau, Male agreed to provide the union with a complete list of all the women, with service since January 1, 1943, who are still working.

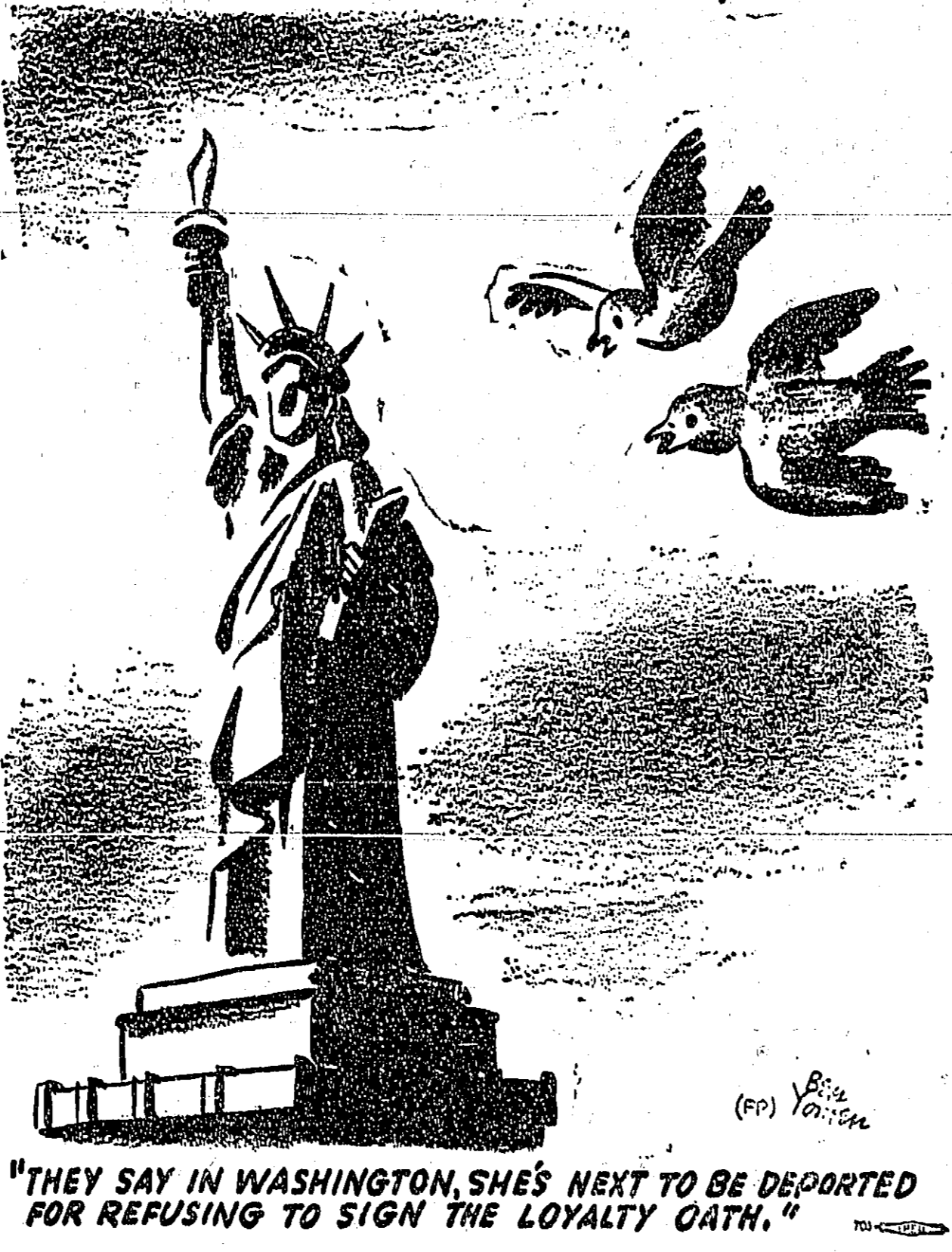
New Case Cited

Jandreau followed up the meeting by a letter to Male Tuesday calling attention to another example of a laid-off woman worker whose seniority rights were violated.

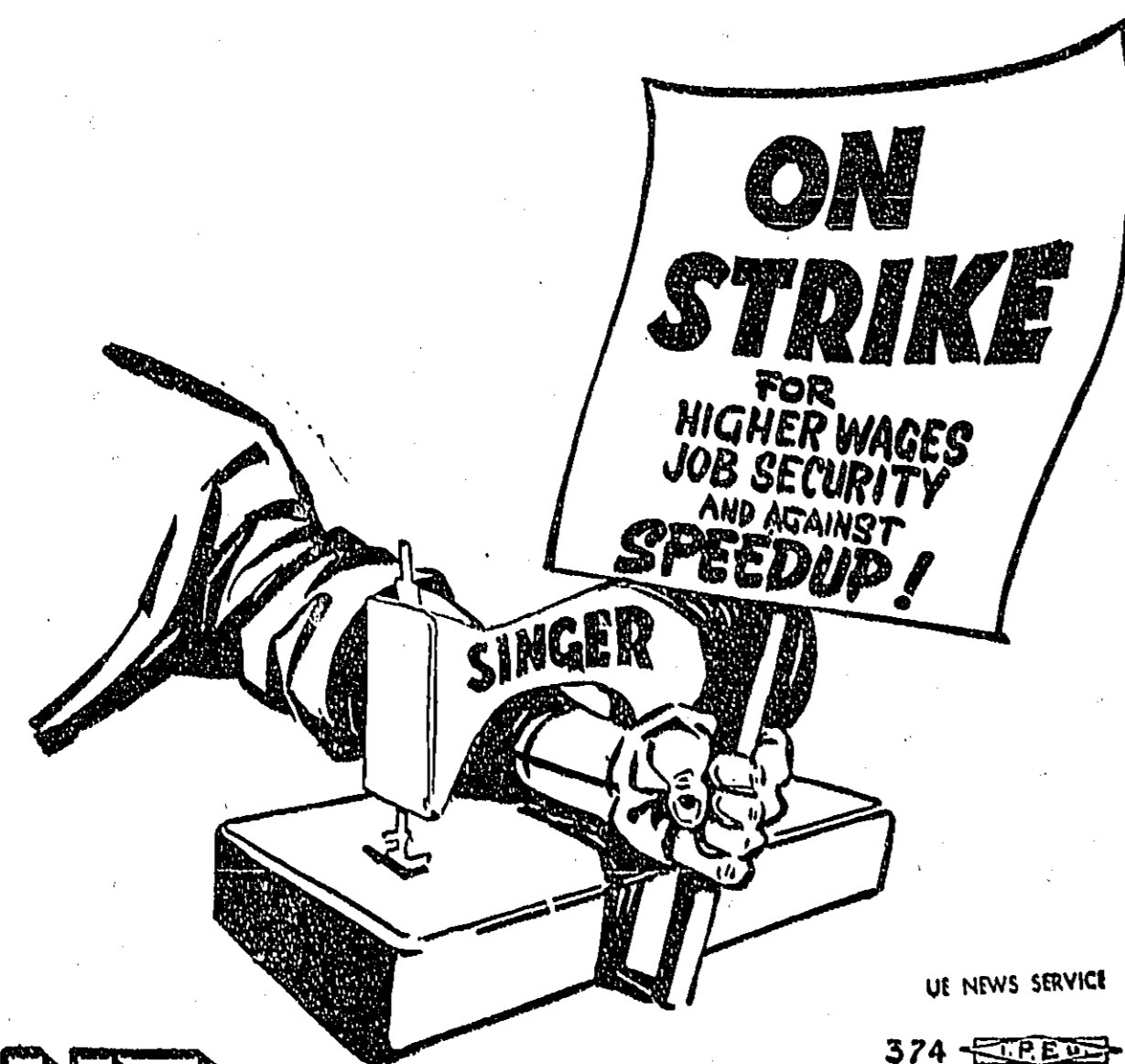
She was laid off June 2 and was rehired late in August in Building 69 as a matron with a rate of \$1.07. Her prior service, dating from March, 1943, had included inspector, coil winding and assembly. But when she was rehired she was told there was nothing better than a matron job available. The union has learned that in Bldg. 69 alone there are 11 women with shorter service employed on the kind of assembly work she has done.

CONGRESSMAN DRIPP

By YOMEN



THE SINGER WORKERS ASK YOUR HELP!



Local 227, UE-CIO, 1071 Pembroke St., Bridgeport, Connecticut
Local 401, UE-CIO, 210 Trumbull Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America

PROTECT YOUR JOB — WIN THE 35 HOUR WEEK

Shop Collections For Singer Strike

Shop Steward Edward Duglin of Building 273 turned in \$58.75 recently from his group for the UE Singer strikers. It represented collections he made over several weeks and was the largest amount turned in by any steward during the past week.

The 8,500 workers who have been striking against the Singer Sewing Machine Company for four months are fighting for higher wages, job security and against the speed-up. They need the backing of every Schenectady GE worker, through regular weekly strike donations. A victory over Singer will strengthen the union's wage campaign at GE.

Did You Know?

The Tax Foundation has just made a study showing that there are 151 hidden federal and state taxes on a loaf of bread. Since these taxes are almost always passed on to the consumer, this is a clear example of the way the big tax load is carried by the "little man."

'Fact-Finders' Report On Steel Postponed

The recommendations of the steel industry "fact-finding board" were due to be made Tuesday of this week, but President Truman extended the time to Sept. 10. The steel strike postponement period ends officially on Sept. 14.

Local 301 leaders have warned repeatedly that it would be dangerous to look to the steel board's findings to set a "pattern" which would settle UE negotiations with GE. This is true regardless of whether the board's recommendations are good or bad.

The steel companies are not bound to accept the recommendations. If they do, GE does not recognize conditions in the steel industry as necessarily binding on ours.

The GE Employee Relations Division's "news letter" circulated among management devotes much of its August 10 issue to an attack on the idea that the steel hearings might set a "pattern" for all industry. It also attacks the idea of a raise for the steelworkers.

BUILD THE UNION

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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CONGRESSMAN DRIPP

By YOMEN



GE's Wilson Admits He Prefers Company Unions— How Surprising!

President Charles E. Wilson of GE made use of his fiftieth anniversary interviews to make known his preference for company unions. Of course he used slightly veiled language. Here is the direct quotation from Wilson, as carried in the New York Times last week:

"I do not believe that great monopolistic national unions best serve the interests of the employees of industrial companies. I think the interests of the employees are better guaranteed by unions specializing in the requirements of the employees of a particular company."

The Schenectady Gazette and the Schenectady Union-Star fell all over themselves last week to see which paper could print the most about Wilson's anniversary. Newspapers in other cities also jumped through the hoop for one of their biggest advertisers.

In addition to printing an editorial and pictures, the Gazette in a

so-called news story praised Wilson for "his demonstrated interest in expanding distribution of goods to absorb unemployment and to promote higher living and working standards."

GE workers are wondering how Wilson is showing this interest in view of his attitude in contract negotiations.

The Gazette interview quotes Wilson as saying that GE is no longer just a manufacturer but is "a factor in science, in education, in government and in social progress."

Certainly GE has been a big factor in killing price control, inflicting

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Stewards Hit Carey Meeting

The 301 shop stewards Tuesday night overwhelmingly branded the rump public meeting which James B. Carey was to address Wednesday night of this week at Mont Pleasant High School as a move to disrupt the union in the midst of contract negotiations. Union members must expect another round of such attacks on UE after the national UE convention, the stewards warned. Carey was invited to Schenectady to sneak by Frank Kriss, 301 president.

The stewards approved a statement for distribution to the membership, issued by the Executive Board Monday, on the disruptive character of the campaign by Carey and his agents in 301. The statement pointed out that the Carey meeting was not a union meeting.

Kriss told the Executive Board Monday that he issued invitations to Carey, to Frederick Kelley of Lynn (running against Albert J. Fitzgerald for UE president), to Fitzgerald and to 301 Business Agent Leo Jandreau to speak at the Mont Pleasant meeting. He claimed that he wanted to help "bring the CIO and UE together."

Not a Union Meeting

The Executive Board, in addition to issuing the two-page statement on the Carey campaign, passed a shorter statement instructing Kriss that he cannot preside over any meeting calling itself a 301 meeting unless the meeting was called in accordance with the union's constitution. (See separate story.) The Board ordered Kriss and Secretary Frank Fiorillo to inform the newspapers and the Board of Education that the "supposed UE meeting" Wednesday was not a UE meeting. The shop stewards approved this statement also.

The Executive Board also instructed Jandreau not to appear at the Carey meeting. Jandreau was in Saratoga Wednesday night at the meeting of the State CIO Executive Board.

In its statement to the membership, the Board called attention to

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Plan Meeting Monday of UE Negotiators

The national GE and Westinghouse negotiating committees of UE will have a joint meeting at 2 p. m. Monday in the national UE office, New York City, to determine the course of action to be put before the locals to break the deadlock in the contract negotiations. Both GE and Westinghouse have flatly refused all the proposals of the union.

The negotiating committees were elected by the GE and Westinghouse Conference Boards of UE locals. Business Agent Leo Jandreau of 301 is on the GE committee.

The Local 301 shop stewards Tuesday night unanimously approved recommendations of an upstate New York joint GE-Westinghouse Conference of UE, which took place at Syracuse Aug. 25. The report was made by Jandreau, and Board Members Helen Quirini and John Brauneisen.

The program calls for department meetings, stepping up grievance procedure on a local basis, and marshaling full support of the membership, members' wives, pensioners, unemployed members and the community in support of the UE wage program.

How About It, Charlie Shall We Settle Now?

A piece of verse entitled "Trader John," in the May-June issue of "Monogram," GE's magazine for GE office workers, praises John Wanamaker, department store founder, in these words:

"John started business
In a novel way
He shortened hours
And he lengthened pay"

The piece then goes on to call Wanamaker a "rugged personal enterpriser" who made "ethics pay."

GE workers will now wait breathlessly for Charlie Wilson to follow Trader John's example, as proposed by UE in the negotiations.

Wilson Prefers Company Unions

(Continued from page 1)

ing Taft-Hartley on the country, weakening unemployment insurance and fighting social security, workmen's compensation, wage-hour legislation, etc.

Inserted in each copy of the Sept. 2 Works News was a handsomely printed, 14 page pamphlet on the life of Wilson.

The biography presents him as "a conscientious seeker after the simple truth." (But apparently he isn't interested in the simple truth that GE workers need more money and that pensioners can't live on their GE pensions.)

The pamphlet was written in the vein of "Work hard and you can get to be GE president too."

Listen to this "quotation" from Wilson: "I'm as close to being the average person as could be imagined. I'm just a fellow who has watched a lot of others fail to get what they want in life because they wouldn't work hard enough to get it."

Another gem is at the very end of the pamphlet. The final paragraph starts off:

"Inside General Electric there seems to be a feeling that all is well."

The pamphlet claims that Wilson is now "closer to his people than ever before" in the GE plants and that "they're proud of him. He's our kind of a guy," they say.

Of course there's no mention of a few rather important differences between Wilson and the average GE worker.

In base salary, extra compensation and a stock bonus, Wilson received \$242,000 from GE in 1948, an increase of \$75,250 over 1947. When he retires he will get a pension of \$5,500 a month.

The weekly purchasing power of those GE workers who still have full time employment is \$11.09 less than in January, 1945. Thousands of GE workers are jobless or working part time. The average GE pensioner gets \$39 a month pension.

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Hits CIO Inactivity On Legislative Front

Russ Nixon, UE legislative representative at Washington, D.C., wrote a letter in late August to Nathan Cowan, national CIO legislative director, expressing concern at the fact that "the CIO Legislative Committee has virtually ceased to function."

The CIO Legislative Committee met only once in the past 11 weeks, he pointed out, and not at all in the past seven weeks. In that period, however, Congress was considering such issues as housing, wages and hours and the poll tax.

He also called attention to the following facts:

The CIO Veterans' Committee has not met since Jan. 26 in spite of the importance of fighting to maintain "52-20" veterans' unemployment compensation.

The CIO Labor Sub-Committee has not met for months. Even during the Taft-Hartley fight it met only once or twice.

The CIO Economic Sub-Committee has met only once this year—and that time briefly to consider the question of the oleomargarine tax.

The CIO Civil Rights Committee has not met for months.

UE was systematically excluded from any position of leadership on these committees, Nixon reminded Cowan. Nevertheless UE representatives accepted appointments on the subcommittees and hoped to take part in CIO legislative activities.

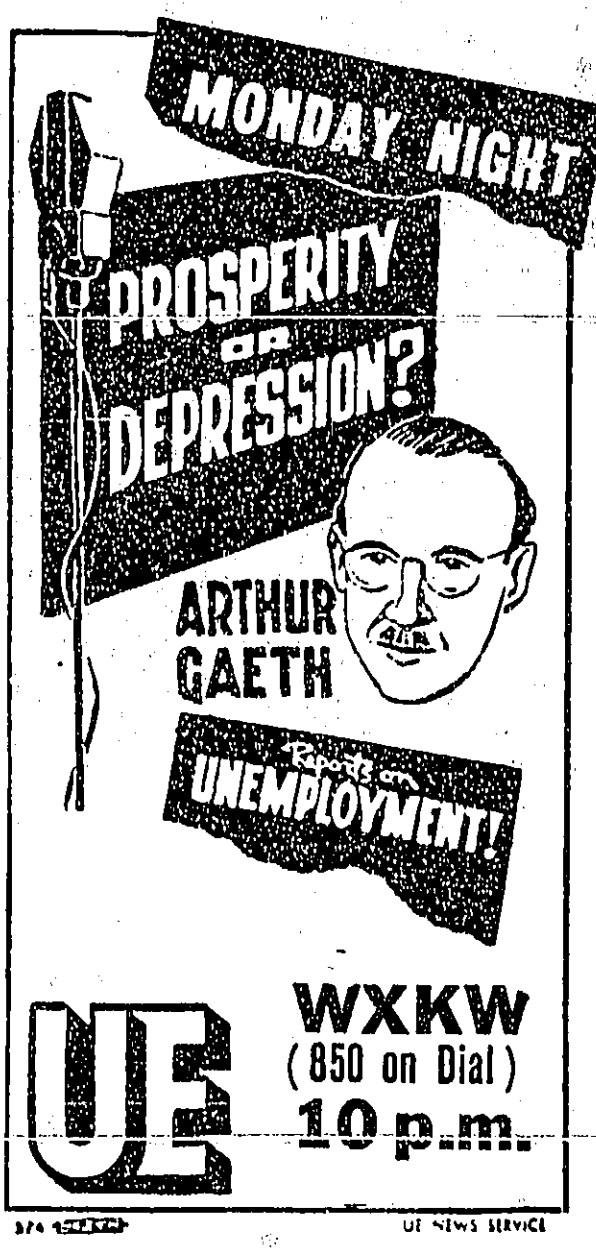
Nixon said he must now notify the national UE that "the CIO Legislative Committee has not

Carey 'Bust Union' Group Gives Directions To Break Up Union Membership Meetings

A letter from the UE District 7 office contains warning of the kind of action the James B. Carey "bust UE" group is taking in a desperate effort to get control of the union.

About 50 of these disrupters, led by Carey in person, invaded a membership meeting of UE Local 757 at Cincinnati Aug. 21. The invading group included members of other CIO unions and newspapermen. They almost succeeded in taking over the meeting by cut-throats, whistling, shouting and general disruption, with Carey participating.

Some of the same gang marched into the membership meeting of Local 757 at Zanesville, Ohio, Aug. 24, and disrupted the meeting. The company had just instituted incentive cuts at the plant which ran as high as 40 cents an hour. But



Singer Strike Fund

The largest amount of money turned in at the union office during the past week for the UE Singer Sewing Machine Company was \$36.45 handed in by Shop Steward Thomas Horne from his group in Building 46.

been functioning in recent weeks, and as far as its important subcommittees are concerned, virtually has not functioned at all during the entire session of the 81st Congress.

"This obviously raises the question of how we are expected to coordinate with and have participation in the legislative work of the entire CIO," Nixon added.

Stewards Hit Carey Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

"the deliberate lie" spread by Kriss and Fiorillo about the Local 301 resolution on the CIO.

"Fiorillo had his full chance to argue this question at a joint meeting of shop stewards and members August 16," the Board pointed out. "After full and free debate, Fiorillo was able to win about six votes against the resolution. The resolution was carried in full in the Electrical Union News of August 19. More than two weeks later, Kriss and Fiorillo cry 'foul!'"

The Board and the stewards urged the membership "to resist Carey's campaign and to repudiate his agents within the local" and concentrate on preserving the union and winning shorter hours, higher pay and better pensions.

The Local 301 office was informed Wednesday by Dr. Clarence Hinchey, deputy superintendent of schools, that the contract to hire Mont Pleasant School for Wednesday night was signed in the name of Local 301-UE-CIO by Frank Kriss, president.

Vice-president William Hodges and John P. Green, assistant recording secretary, at once notified Dr. Hinchey by telegram:

"We are advising you officially that the Local 301 Executive Board has ruled that there is no meeting of this local and no UE meeting scheduled for tonight. Neither Mr. Kriss nor anyone else had or has authority to sign such a contract for tonight in the name of the union."

GE Refuses to Raise Rates of Tinsmiths

A committee of tinsmiths, who took part in a grievance session in New York City last week, brought back to the workers in Building 52 the top GE management's final refusal to adjust rates of the tinsmiths' group.

Shop Steward Louis Strenka, Shop Steward Frank Diehsner and Charles Mitsche were the tinsmiths who went to New York with Business Agent Leo Jandreau, to argue that the tinsmiths' rates should be raised in line with those of the electricians.

The union group argued only on the basis of the existing wage structure and did not raise at this time the broader question that all craft rates at the Schenectady plant are too low.

10 Delegates From UE Local 301 at State CIO Session

The annual State CIO convention was scheduled to start yesterday and to continue through tomorrow at Saratoga Springs.

Delegates from 301 include Leo Jandreau, a member of the State CIO Executive Board, 301 Board Members Albert Davis, Sam Scott, Joseph Kelly, John Brauneisen, Henry Kaminski Edward J. Bombard, Jr., Fred Pacelli and Sidney Friedlander, and Shop Steward Mary McCartin.



Jandreau Brauneisen Mary McCartin Scott

301 Board Action On Carey Meeting

By a roll-all vote of 22 to 3 the 301 Executive Board Monday adopted the following statement:

"The Executive Board advises Frank C. Kriss and all officers that as individuals they have the right to discuss anything they want with anyone or any group. In their capacity as officers of Local 301 they are governed by the constitution of the union, which they have sworn to uphold. Kriss cannot preside over any meeting calling itself a Local 301 meeting unless that meeting has been called in accordance with the constitution of Local 301.

"In view of the false newspaper reports about a supposed UE meeting Wednesday night, September 7, the Executive Board instructs President Kriss and Recording Secretary Fiorillo to announce to the newspapers and to the Board of Education that there is no UE meeting at that time. It instructs them, in case they are present at the supposed meeting at Mt. Pleasant High School, to announce that it is in no way a UE meeting.

"The Executive Board further instructs Kriss, Fiorillo and all officers not to lend their office in any way to a discussion of internal Local 301 matters in a public meeting."

Voting for the resolution were Brashear, Brauneisen, Cognetta, Davis, Esposito, Friedlander, Kaminski, Kelly, Kusche, La Bombard, Mangino, Mastriani, Pacelli, Quirini, Scott, Sisto, Stewart, Villano, Hodges, Jandreau, Green and White.

"No" votes were cast by Bishop, Flanagan, and Fiorillo. Members absent were Phillips, Spears, and Watts. Kriss presided.

The vote was the same on the longer statement condemning the James B. Carey campaign and pointing out that there was no 301 meeting this week. See story on page 1.

Schenectady Papers Do a Job for Carey

The Gazette and Union-Star again went all-out in their efforts to build up James B. Carey's anti-UE circus Wednesday and misrepresent Local 301's record and actions.

Both papers had been putting up a pretense of "fair" reporting since the last time their efforts on behalf of their favorite candidates failed. They dropped this mask for the latest big push against 301. Anything went. The papers gave unlimited space to the most silly and irresponsible slanders by Carey, Frank Fiorillo, and other Carey followers. They suppressed the official facts given out by the union, distorted events and put forth outright lies about facts known to the papers.

The 301 joint resolution on CIO policy was published in the August 19 issue of the EU News which goes to both papers. But not once did either paper carry even one paragraph of that resolution. The last paragraph alone would have debunked the newspaper story that the resolution favored withdrawal from the CIO. And the Gazette tried to make it appear that the membership's open and public action was some secret move of "delegates . . . headed by Mr. Jandreau . . ."

Both papers tried to make it appear that Carey's Wednesday night circus was a genuine UE meeting. The Gazette went so far as to state flatly on Tuesday that Jandreau and Albert Fitzgerald, UE general president, would be there, though it was obvious that they would not lend themselves to this circus. The same Gazette story also stated that an amendment to the UE Constitution has been passed, when no such amendment has been passed. It completely misstated the content of an amendment which has been proposed.

On Tuesday the 301 Executive Board issued a brief statement giving the correct facts as to the so-called meeting. The Gazette received this about 5 p.m., long before its story was written. But the story the next morning used only a few lines of the statement, buried in a mass of Carey ballyhoo.

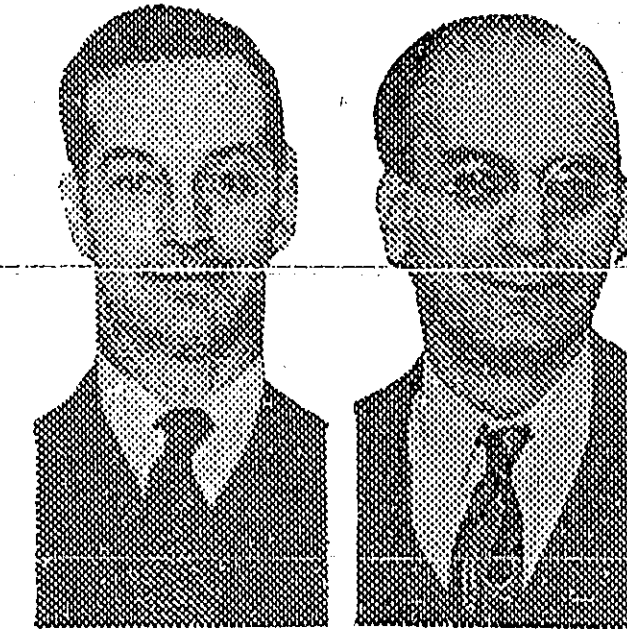
And yet Carey and his followers complain that they are not given a fair chance to state their "side" to 301 members.

UE Wins New GE Plant

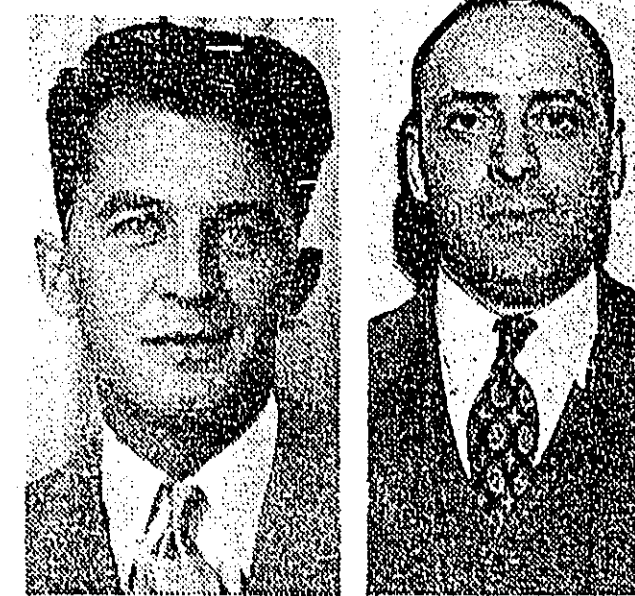
Another GE plant has been added to UE. The Ontario Labor Relations Board has certified UE as bargaining agent at the Premier Vacuum Cleaner Company, a GE Canadian subsidiary, at Toronto. The company employs 59 workers.



Kelly Davis



La Bombard Friedlander



Kaminski Pacelli

Meeting for Unemployed

A meeting for unemployed GE workers is scheduled for 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12 at the 301 Hall. All jobless GE workers are invited.

Membership Meeting

The September membership meeting of Local 301 will be at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, for first and third shift members, and at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, for second shift members, at the union hall.

The Executive Board voted Monday to set the meeting the last week of the month, instead of the preceding week, so that delegates to the UE convention can report to the membership.

power to see that it stops.

"UE is the best fighter for real CIO unity. For two years our union has pleaded with the top CIO officers to let the major CIO unions unite their efforts for higher pay, shorter hours, and adequate pensions. These officers rejected unity on this basic bread and butter issue, but they demand that the membership of UE comply on political issues, on the political maneuvers which have kept Taft-Hartley on the books and supported government policies that are bringing on a depression."

"For sometime now the top CIO officers have been using our money — UE's per capita — to split and raid UE. Our union has been trying patiently to get this stopped. At some point this must STOP, and we propose that the general executive board have the