

## Miners Say T-H Issue Should Be Attacked At Polls Next Year

The United Mine Workers Journal said in an editorial Oct. 1 that the nationwide debate over whether President Eisenhower repudiated a promise to send 19 Taft-Hartley law amendments to Congress has obscured the real issue. T-H amendments, it said, must be enacted by Congress and the way to get a Congress that will act is by voting for pro-labor men.

"Labor's program for getting rid of T-H oppression," the editorial said, "must begin at the voting booths in next year's congressional elections. Some changes in Congress are required before there can be any major change in T-H. The administration, it is clear now if it was not before, is not going to recommend anything worthwhile or that which it does not believe it can count on being passed.

The Journal thinks two other issues have been obscured by the contest between the White House and Martin P. Durkin, who resigned as secretary of labor after President Eisenhower refused to send to Congress 19 proposed T-H amendments.

The first of these, the Journal said, is that "the 19 amendments were inconsequential and did not run to the real evils of T-H." This position was underscored at the recent AFL convention where a resolution explained that in no sense were the 19 amendments representative of organized labor's demands for change of the labor law.

### Protest Safety Hazard

The crane-follower in Bldg. 60 Large Motor & Generator recently found it necessary to file a written grievance protesting the hazardous condition of the cables they were being required to work with. A few weeks later the test group of this same Division found it necessary to make a similar protest in regard to the unsafe condition prevailing on their job. In both cases it was found that the required equipment for correction was "on order".

Members of this Division are reasonably concerned about their safety while waiting for these materials realizing that the excuse of "on order" will be of no compensation to them if injuries result meanwhile. Two cases such as these, coming as they did within a few weeks of each other, cast considerable doubt as to whether or not this Division is living up to Article III of the Contract which provides for systematic safety inspections. Shop stewards of this Division will be maintaining constant vigilance to see that they do.

## Local 301 Wins

(Continued from Page 1)  
closed down in spite of the union's objections. The decision to shut down was a voluntary, unilateral act of the employer to serve its business convenience. The contract between the union and the employer did not obligate the employer to shut down any of its departments or divisions for vacation purposes. The language of the contract did not preclude the employer from remaining open and staggering the vacation periods of those employees entitled to vacation with pay. Since the shut down is not attributable to any request or demand of claimants of the union, but occurred despite their objection, claimants may not be said to have temporarily withdrawn from the labor market by reason of the shut-down.

With this decision, Local 301 has won a significant victory for all GE workers everywhere in the country.

Workers who have filed will be called in by the Unemployment Insurance Division to be checked as to whether they were available for work during the shut-down. Workers who have not filed and workers who inform the Division that they were away on vacation or otherwise unavailable for work will not be entitled to the benefits. Since the Company and the Industrial Commissioner have twenty days to file appeals from this decision, the likelihood is strong that eligible workers will not hear from the Division at least until October 19th when the time to appeal will expire.

### Bldg. 46 Inspectors

As we go to press, the second meeting with management is taking place in an effort to resolve the complaint made by the Inspectors in Bldg. 46, Aeronautics Department.

At the meeting that was held last Thursday, October 1st, the management offered to make an "A" Class Inspector in the jig borer section and to make another "B" Class Inspector in the final inspection. The Union committee requested 1 "A" and 4 "B's" while at a meeting on Sept. 17th.

As it now stands, the present offer by the management falls short by 3 "B's". The meetings that are currently in progress may solve this difference.

### Wins Increase In Bldg. 46

As a result of Shop Steward Fred Pucelli filing a grievance on the 2nd shift, Bldg. 46, questioning a rate paid to an operator on an Induction Harding Machine, the rate was increased 13c per hour.

The case was processed to management and after a joint investigation, the facts showed the rate to be too low.

## Your Union Dues

As a result of the increase in National Per Capita and the need for increasing our Union dues, many members have raised questions of information.

A monthly financial report showing income and expenses for the current month is given in writing to every member who attends the regular monthly membership meetings. The report is presented at the meeting for approval, giving any member opportunity to question any item of expense and to vote on it accordingly.

Some uninformed members will ask where the money goes. A few weeks ago we published a breakdown of income and expenses showing where our money goes. This report showed that after meeting the financial obligations of the local Union we ended up with a margin of \$700.00 surplus monthly if there were not any extraordinary expenses.

In order to clear up in the minds of those how much income the Local has to meet every day expenses, the following is an example:

Dues \$2.50 — Income as of Jan. 1, 1953	
	.50 Bldg. & Defense Fund
	.75 Nat. Per Capita
	.10 District Per Capita
	1.35
1.35 — For local expenses	
This income compares with Jan. 1, 1951	
Dues \$2.00 — Income as of Jan. 1, 1951	
	.75 Nat. Per Capita
	.10 District Per Capita
	.85
.85 — for local expenses	

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Wages have increased on the average of .31c per hour since Jan. 1st, 1951, which has reflected in our lost time for shop stewards and officers.

Likewise, the Union has provided for compensation services which increases our operating cost, and at the same time maintains our services through our shop stewards' system by having adequate representation which presently numbers approximately 625 shop stewards. The annual elections and the democratic methods we all insist be used add to our expenses.

It has been the practice in our Union to keep the Union dues in line with what is actually required to meet our obligations. With the present increase in National Per Capita, our income of \$2.50 per month dues will result in the following:

Dues \$2.50 — Income as of Jan. 1, 1953	
	.50 Bldg. & Defense Fund
	1.00 Nat. Per Capita
	.10 District Per Capita
	1.60
.90 — for local expenses	

This, of course, would make an impossible situation and either compel us to curtail our present services or stop our Bldg. & Defense Fund. The answer to this problem is an increase in dues of .50c per month which will allow us to apportion .25c to meet the increased Per Capita and .25c to supplement our general fund for local expenses.

New York—7000 CIO furniture workers are on strike all over the country, the union said.

Schenectady, N. Y.—The guaranteed annual wage is "possible only under a dictatorship," says General Electric President Ralph J. Cordiner.

Washington — When President Eisenhower's agriculture secretary set a minimum wage of only \$5.54 for a 9-hour day (just over 42c an hour) the National Agricultural Workers Union (AFL) called a strike vote on Louisiana sugar plantations.

Washington—Democrats want a hand in the administration's investigation of why retail food prices keep going up while payments to farmers go down.

Washington—The 18th Convention made their report to the shop stewards' meeting last Monday and it was approved by unanimous vote.

Also, the report of the G.E. Conference Board was made, outlining the discussion program for 1954 contract, which was also accepted. The convention delegates will make their reports again at the regular membership meeting to be held on Monday, October 19th.

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# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

Vol. 11 — No. 41

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

Friday, October 16, 1953



## Members Favor Dues Increase By 3 to 1 Margin

Washington — A new war scare by Collier's magazine, attempting to cash in on the H-bomb hysteria, is not supported by the U. S. air force.

Oakland, Calif.—The 3½-month strike of AFL streetcar men on the Key system ended with a compromise win of 1c increase spread over a year.

Pittsburgh — Masters, Mates & Pilots (AFL) and Marine Engineers Beneficial Assn. (CIO) are about to merge, a Master business agent said here.

Lakewood, Fla.—Stable conditions in the hard coal industry are due to top management's personal participation in collective bargaining, said United Mine Workers Pres. John L. Lewis.

Detroit—8000 children in Detroit can't go to school unless someone donates the clothing to make it possible, said Principal James J. Cruikshank of Northern High school. Last year gifts of clothes and shoes prevented 7000 kids to attend.

Detroit — Unemployment benefit officers in the several states are largely responsible for blocking adequate payments to the jobless, said UAW-CIO. legal consultant Leonard Lesser in an address released here.

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## Stewards Notified To Watch Lay-Offs

In some departments there has been a small reduction of forces, causing layoffs of short service employees and transferring of longer service people to busier departments.

The Union stewards have been busy keeping the layoff procedure in accordance with the Seniority Supplement. The Union office has reported several violations of contract to management which were caused by improper department

application of the layoff procedure and violations caused by the Employment Office in Bldg. 1.

The layoffs affecting women have involved longer service people. In the Small & Medium Motor Division the service affected included up to December 1950; in Aeronautics it was April 1951, while in Control it was January 1943. We have been informed by management that all women with less than 1 year of service will receive their notice of layoff in order to make openings for the longer service women.

The procedure for layoffs is very simple and handles the most complicated case if it is properly applied.

1. Employees laid off their regular job must have the shortest service. (Includes all shifts and comparable work.)

2. Should have opportunity to look at all available openings within section or department. If openings are not suitable, then the employee may bump another employee with the least service on a related job in the department or section.

3. If there are not any related jobs suitable to the employee in the section or department, then the procedure outlined in No. 2 above is applied in the plant through the Employment Office.

The Employment Office, according to some reports, has not offered bumps to some women who applied this past week. These cases have been reported to management. On the other hand, some men who were displaced on machine operations were offered common labor while shorter service employees on related machine jobs are still working. These cases were also reported to management.

The shop stewards have been notified to keep a close watch on these layoffs and to take up every case they come in contact with.

Any member who has been removed from his or her job not according to the rules should contact the Union office.

Several months ago, UE undertook the organization of this shop. The UE was the only union in the picture when we filed for an election. Then the Board notified the IUE that we had filed, and at the conference on our petition, the IUE intervened with one application card. Nevertheless, the UE agreed to a consent election.

The IUE immediately opened up the most vicious red-baiting attack in the town, with the assistance of the company.

(Continued on page 3)

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, Oct. 19th

2nd Shift — 1:00 P.M.

1st & 3rd — 7:30 P.M.

Shifts

Reports of Committees

Regular Order of Business

## I.U.E. Fights for "No Union"; Elections Bare Collusion With Anti-Labor Bosses

In the past two weeks three Labor Board elections took place. In all three plants the workers were without a Union. The facts surrounding these three elections expose the role of

the I.U.E., which is one of outright collusion with anti-union employers to beat the U.E. even though it means turning workers against all unions.

1. Magnavox, Greenville, Tenn.

Approximately 4 years ago, when UE was still part of the CIO, the CIO attempted to organize this plant. A number of people were fired, the CIO filed charges, did nothing about them until two years ago when a UE organizer signed up a majority of people. UE filed for an election.

Despite that, however, the IUE lost the election: October 2, 1953, IUE, 561, no union, 1,027.

2. GE, Brockport, N. Y.

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The IUE immediately opened up the most vicious red-baiting attack in the town, with the assistance of the company.

At the same time, the company fired 17 of our active people. Following that the IUE stepped up its

activities and filed for an election. When the order for the election came, it was clear that UE could not win. Our representatives not only withdrew, but went far beyond what was required of them in this situation and called upon the workers, in view of the vicious fight of that company to keep all unions out, to vote for the IUE.

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## Lost Time Payments To Injured Workers

Union Lawyer Explains Methods of Paying for Loss of Wages

An injured worker is entitled to be paid for the time he loses from work as a result of an accident or from an illness which came from his occupation. The maximum compensation he gets for this absence from work is \$32.00 a week. An injured worker should at the same time also file an application for sickness benefits under his insurance plan. Under this insurance plan he is likely to get additional weekly payments as the maximum under that plan is higher than \$32.00 a week.

No compensation is paid for the first week's absence from work. The first week constitutes a "waiting period". However, after a worker has lost a total of 35 days, whether continuously or at intervals, he is entitled to be paid for the first week as well.

Although \$32 is the maximum paid to a worker while he is away from work due to an accident, there are instances where less than \$32 is paid to the worker. This happens when the doctors think that his condition has improved sufficiently to make it possible for him to do some work even though the man is unable to return to his usual work.

When a worker has improved but has not yet returned to work his compensation is based upon the percentage of disability which he may have. If he is 75% disabled, he gets 75% compensation; if he is 50% disabled, he gets 50% compensation, and so on.

An example of how this is figured is as follows: If the worker

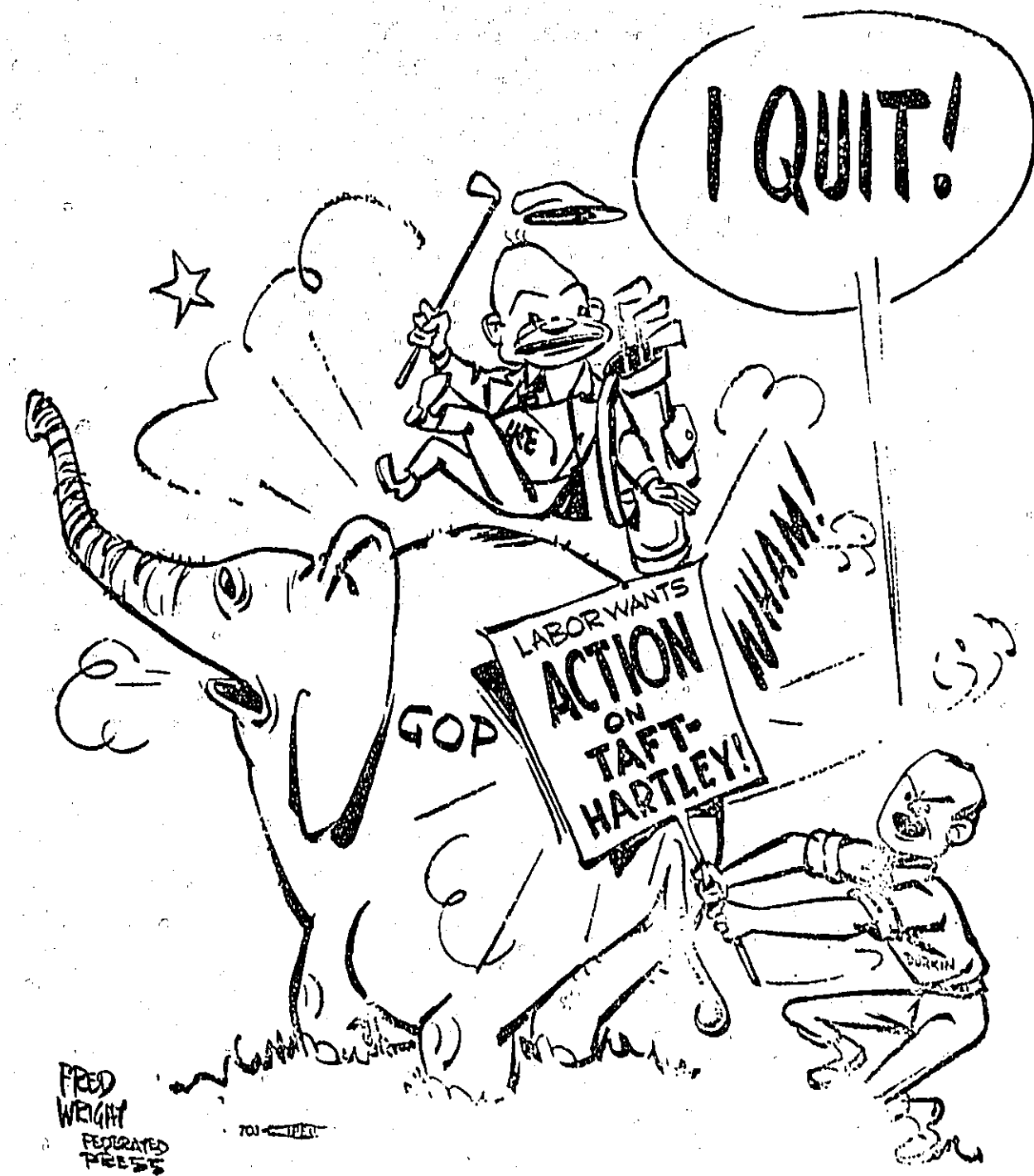
has been injured, let us say on June 1, 1953, his wages for the previous year is first totalled and then an average weekly wage is computed. Let us assume that his average is figured to be \$75.00 a week. Now, if he were totally disabled he would get 2/3 of that which would be \$50.00 per week, except that the law puts a ceiling on the amount he can get at \$32 per week. However, if he is 50% disabled he would get 50% of the \$50, or \$25.00 per week, similarly if he is 75% disabled, he should get 3/4 of the \$50.00 which would make it \$37.50, but here again he is limited to the ceiling of \$32.00 per week.

In the next issue there will be an article which will explain what happens when an injured worker is back at work but is forced to lose pay, that is, to work at reduced earnings as a result of his accident.

## Bldg. 269 Case Wins Increase

Shop Steward Flicker and Board member Gray can be credited with winning increases affecting six test operators in the Electronics Department, Bldg. 269.

Helen Bousa, routine test operator, complained to her shop steward that her job was not properly classified. A grievance was filed by the shop steward which resulted in the classification being changed and an increase of one step, effective 8/10/53. The change in Halcen's job also brought about similar adjustments for five other women in the department.



## Employees Laid-Off from Work Should Apply At Once for Insurance Benefits

Employees who receive lay-off slips should apply promptly for unemployment insurance benefits. The application should be made in the office nearest where you reside and not the office nearest your place of employment.

There is a one-week waiting period during which you are not entitled to these benefits. The benefits start after the first week. If you have already had one week's unemployment during the year preceding the making of this ap-

plication, you should receive credit for the previous waiting period and your benefits should start immediately. Thus, for example, those workers who were affected by the vacation shut-down and who applied for benefits will be given credit for a waiting period, as a result of the union's winning that case.

The worker who applies for unemployment benefits must be able and willing to work. He must be able to show that he is actively looking for work and will be required to give the names of employers where he tried unsuccessfully to find employment.

A worker who applies for benefits has the right to limit the type of employment he is willing to take, but in doing so, he must not limit his choice in such a way as to make impossible the prospect of getting a job in the fields to which he is limiting himself.

A worker also has the right to turn down some jobs offered to him and still be eligible for benefits for the worker must show good cause for turning down such a job. For example, if the job pays less than the prevailing rate of pay in the area, the worker may turn down the job. Also, if the worker is not fit for the job by training he may turn it down.

Any worker who has any trouble in getting his benefits can come up to Union Hall to see the union's lawyer.

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.

out of the Chemical Division with longer service than one who was recently transferred to another Chemical Division job.

Airport: L. Kaminski is classified as an Airplane Mechanic Class "C". He has been doing Class "B" work and performing satisfactorily on the job. He is requesting an upgrade.

C.A.R.T.: The group working under Foreman Hopeck in Bldgs. 5 and 3 at the Race Track are requesting equalization of work. They are all classified as Wireman Class "A", working on Development Equipment.

Bldg. 273: The group working under Foreman S. McNally are protesting the proposed machine rate on a new vertical boring mill. They request it be increased.

Bldg. 273: M. Maloney was reclassified to Class "A" Inspector

**ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS**  
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Local 301  
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## New Stewards Take Oath



New Shop Stewards sworn in at October 5th Stewards' meeting: Frances Tallman and Charlotte Passikoff, Bldg. 69; Daniel Mossolani and Francis Jennings, Race Track; Charles Sabey, Bldg. 273; George Strait, Bldg. 73; Gordon Trotter, Bldg. 11; John Downey, Bldg. 13.

## Robinson Wins Again

Foreman Robinson wins the prize of the week by suggesting a new set of rules for his employees at the Campbell Avenue Race Track building.

While his views, expressed to the Executive Board member, contradict the anniversary of 75 years of progress, Mr. Robinson insists that the old "Rule by iron fist" must be the order of the day. Believe it or not, he suggests the following:

1. No eating of sandwiches during working hours.
2. No newspapers or magazines, especially the Union paper lying on the benches. (Note: He referred to a pile of Union papers that he had collected, lying on his desk.)
3. Shop stewards were spending too much time on Union activity.
4. Does not agree with settlements made in Bldg. 41 by management.
5. Threatens disciplinary action on infraction of any rules.

Now, Foreman Robinson means

## Foreman Still Looking —Bldg. 16

Shop Steward Lloyd Perue, Bldg. 16, Large Motor & Generator, was not satisfied that Foreman Zautner was making a sincere effort to fill the opening on Cl. "A" Inspection recently created on the 3rd shift, and, therefore, filed a written grievance to this effect. Oddly enough Foreman Zautner was apparently oblivious of the layoff's through the plant; for, according to his answer, he was still looking for "the right kind of man." After contact with management, "the right kind of man" was soon found, according to Contract, one who had been affected by a lack of work on his former job.

all right, but the backward ways he tries to apply in order to go forward are confusing to him as well as to the employees. He is slightly over-zealous in keeping record of everything that goes on and you frequently can find him peeping from behind machines, making notes in his black book.

So, by unanimous vote of the employees in C.A.R.T., he was selected as the prize winning foreman for the week and we award him the prize of a bouquet of scallions.

## I.U.E. Fights For "No Union"

(Continued from Page 1)

ance of the V.F.W., the Legion, some churches, the company and the town newspaper. The IUE had no hope of winning, but did everything in collusion with the company and other anti-union forces to lick the UE.

The election was held October 1, 1953 — UE, 70, no union, 144, IUE, 3.

### 3. GE Tube, Buffalo, N. Y.

The UE organized in this plant for a year, gaining increasing strength. We were ready for our big push for an NLRB election, when the IUE for the first time came on the scene. As in the case of Brockport, they opened up with their usual red-baiting attack among these unorganized workers, splitting and confusing them.

Although UE strength was greater than IUE's, it became clear to us that we could not win, and that the danger was of a "no union" vote. UE withdrew, withheld any attacks of any kind on the IUE.

The election was held October 7, 1953—IUE, 299, no union, 423.

## I.U.E. Lynn Paper Wrong As Usual

The October 9th issue of the I.U.E. News from Lynn claimed that there were mass layoffs in Schenectady, using the speech made by the G. E. President, Ralph J. Cordiner, to the Chamber of Commerce here on October 6th.

This is not the first time the I.U.E. used this speech and used it incorrectly. Two weeks ago at the I.U.E. convention in Montreal, Canada, Jim Carey read the speech to the I.U.E. convention even though Cordiner, at that time, had not as yet made it in Schenectady.

We suggest that if Jim and Ralph are "Falsy-Walsy" enough to make one another's speeches, Jim should try to concern himself with the employment outlook in some of the places he represents, such as Lynn where the Company announced on October 1st there would be a 40% cutback in production due, affecting over 1,700 workers.

The G. E. President did say that Schenectady is primarily a development plant and certain jobs after they are developed are transferred to other G. E. plants for production. However, this has been the practice in Schenectady for years. There has been some talk about transferring certain jobs to new locations, but so far the only two jobs that have been transferred this year are the cable work and the special metals, both involving less than 300 workers, who have been placed in other departments in accordance with our Seniority Supplement.

We will get our share of unemployment in Schenectady, like every place, in view of the current recession which indicate a general recession of business. Carey's time could be better spent and the I.U.E. News could make a much better contribution to G.E. workers if they would suggest a program that would unite all G.E. workers in an effort to provide jobs for those people in all G.E. plants who are being laid off.

## Strike Donation To Local 1113

The Executive Board voted \$100 as a strike donation to Local 1113, Wausan, Wisconsin.

The strike has been going on for nineteen months. There are 750 workers involved.

Marathon Electric, the employer, refused to bargain on issues of a new contract and forced a lockout.