

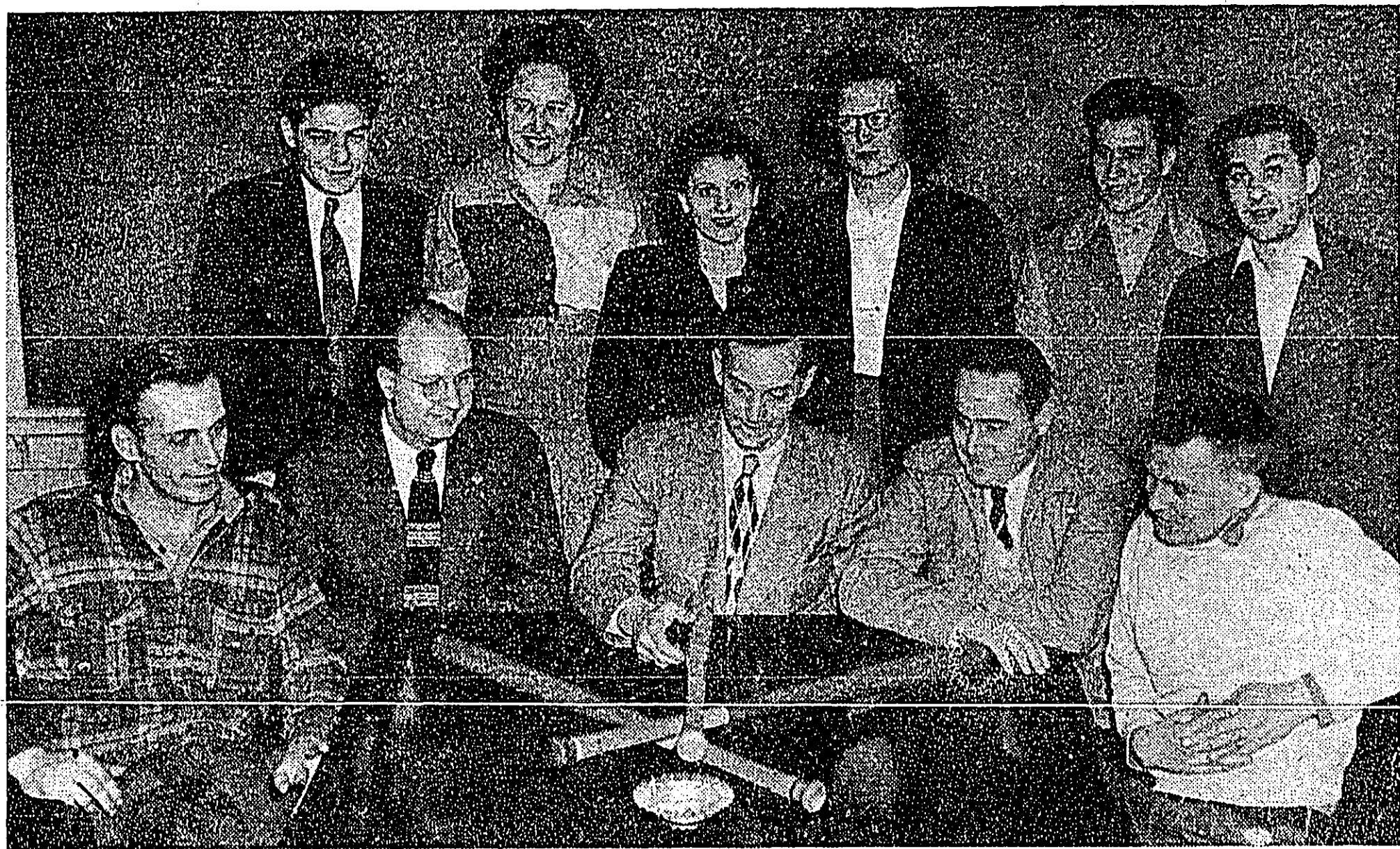
## Talent Audition For 301 Members

A talent bureau will be established by Local 301 for the purpose of finding, developing and utilizing the talent of union members in skits and entertainments. Its first project will be a variety show to be presented at the 301 Field Day June 27. A prize will be offered for the best act.

The Activities Committee has announced that auditions will be conducted from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday at the union hall by Mrs. Dorothy Perlin, wife of the Local 301 attorney, Michel Perlin. Mrs. Perlin is an experienced director and actress, who has worked in summer stock, repertory, radio and television.

Any member who can sing, dance, act, play a musical instrument or perform as a master of ceremonies is invited to attend the audition. So are members who are interested in performing in skits and short plays, but haven't had any experience. Anyone wishing to take part, but unable to be present Wednesday, should telephone Mrs. Perlin at 2-0885 for an audition appointment.

## They're Organizing 301 Softball Teams



These members are active organizing Local 301 softball teams. Front row, left to right, Stephen Hatal-sky, Gordon Belgrave, Edward J. LaBombard, Jr., Edward Richards and Harmon Cartwright. Rear, Manuel Fernandez, Helen Quirini, Ann Koyal, Jean Schwartz, Joseph Mangino and Arthur DeLuca.

## Union Claims Veteran Victim of Favoritism

Local 301 is pressing a grievance over what the members employed in Bldg. 77 feel is personal discrimination against a young veteran.

The veteran returned from four years' service in the army three years ago, and accepted a stock room job in the belief that when the man in charge retired, he would be given the assignment. But when the retirement came recently, a station wagon driver was given the job.

The explanation given Shop Steward Enoch Wassell was that the engineers who used the stock room favored the driver for the job on the basis of "personality" and "attitude." The men who work with the veteran claim his attitude was good, and that he was penalized for not kowtowing to the higher-ups.

The Gazette went so far as to quote an imaginary "spokesman" for the union to the effect that a "demonstration" had been planned for last Friday. This was a brazen misstatement by the Gazette. No union spokesman gave the Gazette any such information.

## Local 301 Toolmakers At Bridgeport Meeting

Anthony Esposito, Board member for Bldg. 53, and John Kasitch, shop steward, both toolmakers, visited a meeting of GE toolmakers of Local 203, Bridgeport, Conn., Monday night at the request of the Bridgeport local.

Esposito spoke on the gains made for toolmakers in Schenectady last year, with particular reference to automatic progression. Kasitch helped answer questions from the Bridgeport toolmakers.

MAKE YOUR SHOP 100% UE

## Drop in Prices Is Just a Myth

No matter who looks at it, that much publicized drop in prices due to the recent break in the stock and commodity markets just didn't materialize.

On the basis of a UE eight city survey, UE's national radio commentator Arthur Gaeth estimated recently that the price of food in the family market basket had dropped only 3 1/2 percent.

Eight days later the UE estimate was confirmed by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, which announced that it too had found only a 3 1/2 percent drop in its price index.

The only people who still see a drop in the cost of living are Congressmen, businessmen and newspapers opposed to price control—and employers opposed to wage increases.

## Stewards' Meetings

Because of the problems facing the union, the 301 Executive Board has decided to resume the meetings of shop stewards by sections. The stewards will discuss grievances as well as general problems of the union. Some of the dates have been set by Board members for their sections and notices are going out to the stewards.

BUILD THE UNION

## Essay Contest Announced For Garry Waldron Fund

The Schenectady County American Legion is sponsoring a Garry Waldron Building Fund essay contest on "What Can I as an American Do to Prevent World War III?" Charles P. Burke, 301 member, of Bldg. 60 is chairman of the legion committee in charge. High school faculty members will be judges. There will be a \$100 first prize; \$50 second prize; \$25 third prize and five honorable mention prizes of \$5 each.

The contest is open to anyone in New York state, regardless of age, except members of the Garry Waldron Building Fund committee, the special legion committee, the judges, or members of their families.

A contribution to the Garry Waldron Building Fund must be enclosed with each entry. An entry cannot be over 300 words long, must be written or typed on one side of a sheet of paper and must be sent to the Garry Waldron Building Fund essay contest, P.O. Box 392, Schenectady. The post-mark must be before midnight, May 8. Entries will be judged on aptness of thought, sincerity and originality.

## \$100 for Radio Program

The 301 Executive Board Monday voted \$100 toward the Capital District CIO Council's radio program.

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301 - - - - U. E. R. & M. W. A. - - - - C. I. O.

Vol. 6 - No. 17

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

April 23, 1948

## UE Wins Election At Waterford GE

Workers at the GE silicone plant at Waterford chose UE as their bargaining agent Apr. 14 by an overwhelming vote, in an election conducted by the Honest Ballot Association. Of 89 eligible to vote, 72 took part in the balloting. There were 62 votes for UE, 6 for the AFL, 3 for no union and 1 void ballot.

To accommodate the six shifts at the plant, the voting hours were scheduled for 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. After these hours were announced, the company scheduled a fire drill for 4 p.m. As workers taking part in this drill were delayed, the Honest Ballot Association representative kept the polls open till 5 p.m.

Another company move, before the election, was to send a letter to employees reflecting on the honesty of the Honest Ballot Association and insisting the company will recognize only a Taft-Hartley Board election. There were the usual GE cracks about the UE policy of refusing to deal with the Taft-Hartley Board. (The UE-GE contract provides that the company will recognize UE at new plants "through a National Labor Board election or certification, or other appropriate means satisfactory to both parties.")

Leaders in the UE election campaign were officers of Waterford UE Local 327: president, Donald Morrissey; vice-president, John Baker; recording secretary, Edward Dudden; financial secretary, Patrick Griffin, and board members, Ray Charette, Edward J. Gunther and Wilfred Polliquin, and the District 3 representative, Richard Linsley. Ken Yates was the union's observer at the polls.

On the basis of the election, the Waterford workers are determined to get recognition at once for Local 327.

## National UE Broadcasts

The weekly Arthur Gaeth broadcast, sponsored by the national UE, can be heard on the following stations at 10 p.m. every Monday: Albany, WOKO; Buffalo, WRBW; Glens Falls, WGLN; Poughkeepsie, WKIP; Schenectady, WSNY; and Syracuse, WAGE.



## Wilson Tells Stockholders About Jump in GE Profits

Profits of the General Electric Company for the first three months of 1948 have gone up 42 per cent over the 1947 figure for the same period, GE President Charles E. Wilson told the stockholders' meeting Tuesday.

The \$25,389,149 quarterly profits he reported are in line with predictions of UE, that 1948 profits would be even greater than the huge 1947 ones.

At the same meeting Wilson again stated that GE opposed a wage increase "without a proportionate increase in production" as inflationary.

## Strike at Tonawanda

Over 400 UE members at the Durez Plastics plant, Tonawanda, went on strike Monday after a deadlock in contract negotiations. The company offered an increase of 10 cents an hour but refused to budge on overtime pay demands, a third week of vacation for long term workers, and other issues. The workers voted 398 to 24 for the strike.

## Membership Votes for GE Plant Action

The membership of Local 301, in overflow meetings after the close of the first and second shifts Tuesday, voted to call for a protest demonstration over the contract deadlock, to be called by the local executive board in conjunction with all other GE locals.

The membership voted the step on demands from the floor for action, after hearing Leo Jandreau, 301 business agent and District 3 president, report that:

"GE is out to break our union." Jandreau said that the facts today are the strongest ever in support of a wage increase and the union's other proposals, but that facts are not moving the company.

## Members Must Fight

The company is spending vast sums in advertising to mislead the public, Jandreau said, to avoid a wage increase, and the membership will have to "fight to save your union, to keep what you have," and will have to fight to get any more.

The membership meeting, on request of third shift members, also

## More GE Ballyhoo About Price Cuts

GE President Charles E. Wilson last Monday again ballyhooed a price cut of five per cent on certain industrial products. He said it was "a continuation of the company's effort to combat inflation."

But when discussing piece work prices with the union in recent months, company representatives have told a different story. They said they had to bring prices down on certain industrial products because they were having difficulty meeting competitors' prices.

There is every reason to believe that GE is reducing certain prices only when forced to do so as a matter of business and then using this reduction for all its worth in publicity to keep wages down and make further increased profits.

## Lynn Membership Drive

Nearly 1,300 new members have joined UE at the big GE plants at Lynn, Mass., since Jan. 1. Local 201 is campaigning to sign up all the "free riders".

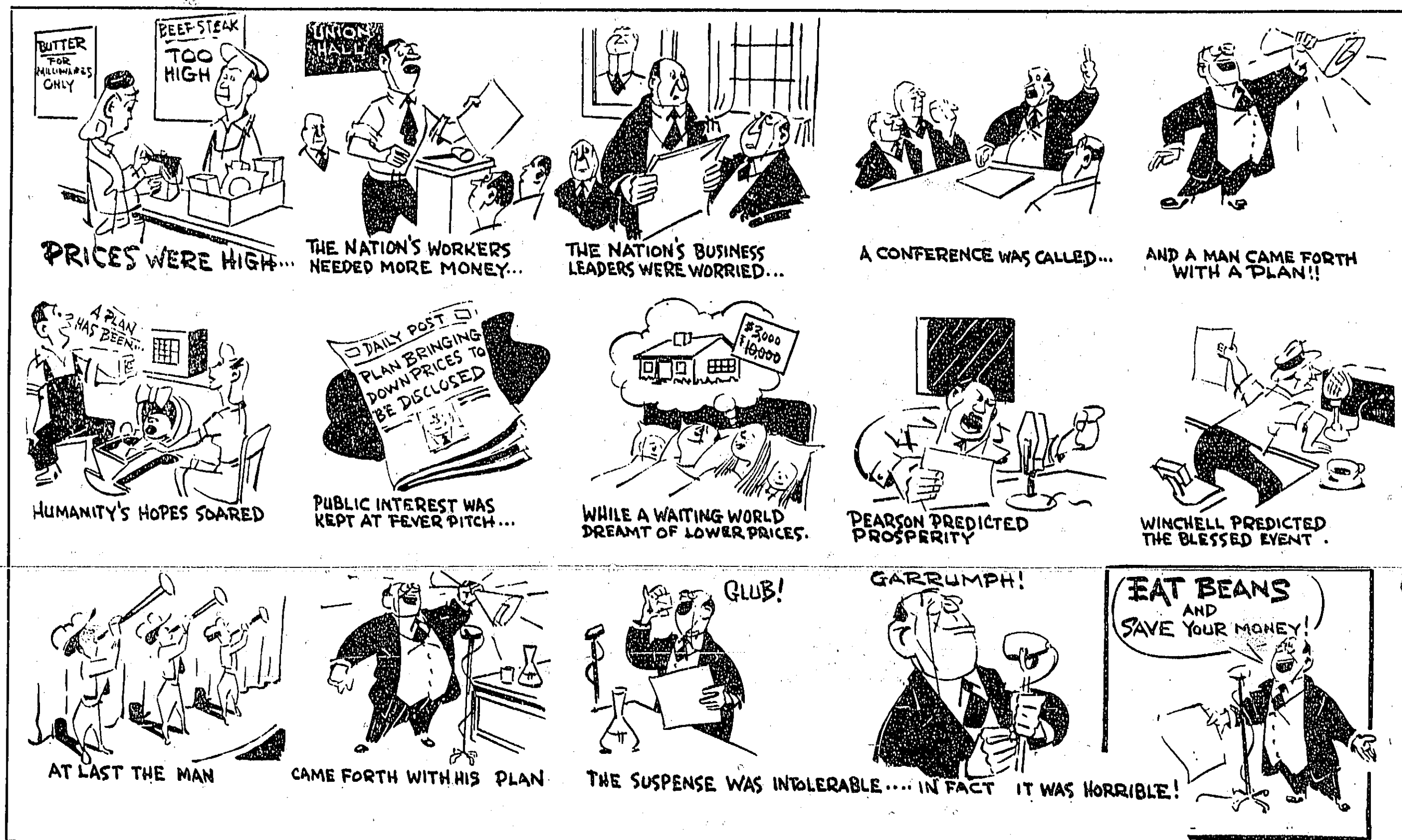
Petitions bearing the signatures and check numbers of 10,173 Schenectady GE workers demanding a raise, a better contract, and bargaining in good faith, were taken to New York Wednesday by a delegation of three Local 301 members, who presented them to the company committee in negotiations.

The petitions were circulated from the previous Thursday to Monday. They pointed out to the company that "we made the money for you, and we need our share of it."

The delegates who took the petitions to GE in New York were Clementine Bottieri of Bldg. 53, Edward G. Bauer, of 72, and Julius Weissman of 46.

voted that the contract not be concluded until the company agrees to equalization of hours for all shifts, with a work week of not (Continued on Page 2)

## He Set Out to Stop Inflation (COLLIER'S ARTICLE ON CHARLES E. WILSON)



### Big Tax Windfall For the Wealthy

By Russ Nixon  
UE Washington Representative

Taxes are reduced. Everyone is glad to have some tax relief. But the small tax savings of a dollar or so a week for the average worker was gained only at the price of tremendous tax relief for the wealthy.

For example, the tax reduction bill just passed probably saves the average GE worker about \$1.50 a week. It saves Charles Wilson, president of GE, at the very least, \$600 a week. This was a slick tax lobby deal. A pittance to the average citizen and landslide tax savings for the rich.

**ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS**  
United Electrical, Radio & Machine  
Workers of America, CIO  
SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

Published by Editorial Committee  
William Templeton, Chairman  
Mary McMartin, Secretary  
William Lardau, Victor Pasche  
Clayton Pudney

Editorial Office  
ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS  
301 Liberty St., Schenectady, N. Y.  
Telephone 3-1386

### C. E. Wilson's Power In Government Cited

The Works News reprinted in full the article on GE President Charles E. Wilson which Colliers ran in its Apr. 10 issue. The article frankly stated that Wilson "has had a bigger hand in the government of the United States than many senators and Cabinet officers." UE and other unions have been trying to show the public for quite some time now that Big Business leaders like Wilson are the men who really pull the strings in the government.

Colliers pointed out that Wilson is "on the Taft-Hartley Advisory Board (to advise Truman when the labor situation warrants putting certain provisions of the Taft-Hartley law into effect)." In general, the article was practically gushing in its praise of Wilson. Colliers, by the way, is printed in a non-union shop.

### Whole Plant Votes UE

100 per cent of the workers at Video Television Inc., New York City, took part in a vote on representation recently and voted 100 per cent for UE. The balloting was conducted by the company and the union.

### Members Vote for GE Plant Action

(Continued from Page 1)

less than 40 hours. Eight hours' pay per regular shift is one of the union's contract demands.

At the 4 o'clock meeting the union hall was packed and large groups stood on the street listening to the discussion over loudspeakers, and voting by show of hands. The midnight meeting packed the hall to capacity.

'Inflation' Argument Phony  
Talking of the company's "inflation" argument against a raise, Jandreau pointed out that from 1921 to 1929 wages went up only 5 cents an hour, while profits rose greatly, and the result was the depression, caused because the people could not buy back what they produced.

The company's "price reduction" program is a subterfuge, Jandreau said, because the company was forced to reduce prices on some articles to meet competition, and then tried to use this to fight a wage raise. He said the company had consistently fought price control.

Top hourly rate here for tool-makers is \$1.75, while it is \$2.00 at Westinghouse, and for electricians the rate is \$1.00 here and

\$1.79 at Westinghouse, Jandreau said. There is a like difference on all jobs.

Company profits go on reaching new records, Jandreau said, and while telling the workers to "eat beans," GE is taking care of itself and its top executives.

Further proof that the "inflation" argument is phony lies in the fact that the company is saying "no" to all other important union proposals, including some which don't affect costs, Jandreau added. He pointed out that raises were given to foremen who had to promote the GE anti-raise propaganda.

"If GE wins this fight," Jandreau declared, "it won't be just a question of wage raises. They will cut piece work prices."

One factor in GE's attitude is the knowledge that unions are under all kinds of pressure today, Jandreau declared. He pointed out the United Mine Workers had stood up to this pressure from the government and as a result had won \$100 pensions.

Jandreau urged members to let their foremen know frequently that they insist on a raise, to read the union paper carefully, and stick together.

### 7 More Awards In Injury Cases

Members of Local 301, represented by the union's attorney, Marshall Perlin, at Workmen's Compensation hearings in Schenectady, recently won the following awards against GE.

John Shepard, bus bar man in Bldg. 50, whose hand was injured Jan. 22, received \$28 a week from the time of the accident until Feb. 20. The final award will be made in October.

Edna Rabatoy, assembler, who suffered a leg injury while working in Bldg. 53, will receive \$21 a week for 75 per cent temporary partial disability until the next hearing. She received \$28 a week from last Dec. 29 to Jan. 2, from Jan. 5 to Jan. 19, and from Jan. 26 to Feb. 23.

Anthony Rossi of Bldg. 71 was awarded \$200 for a facial scar. No lost time is involved. The company is willing to pay for plastic surgery on a neck scar.

Malcolm E. Vandenburg of Bldg. 50, whose left knee was injured in a fall, has been awarded \$11.20 for two days' lost time. The case will be continued for three months to determine permanent disability.

Adam Herold was authorized to have an operation and treatment for a back injury at GE expense.

Philip Siccia, Bldg. 97 salvage worker, received an award of \$150 for facial disfigurement, —a bump on the nose.

Antonio Angiolini, who is now working, received reduced earnings totaling \$72.22 and from now on will receive reduced earnings of about \$3.53 a week, as the result of a back injury. There is a possibility he may also receive an award for a leg injury.

### Blood Donor Needed

A 301 member in Bldg. 5 has asked for a blood donation to repay Ellis Hospital blood bank for a transfusion given his wife last month. The hospital wants Type A or Type O blood. Volunteers should contact the union office and when they report at the hospital should say the donation is to be credited to Local 301.

### Fund for Russo's Family

The widow and children of Mario Russo, UE picket killed during the Phelps Dodge strike, are receiving \$200 a month from the \$38,000 trust fund established by the union. In addition they get \$90 a month social security. Local 301 gave \$500 to the trust fund.

### Hand Petitions to GE



Clementine Bottieri, assembler in Bldg. 53, and Julius Weissman, grinder in Bldg. 46, who went to New York City Wednesday to present to GE, representatives, petitions signed by Schenectady GE workers demanding a pay raise. No picture was available of Edward G. Bauer, cabinet maker in Bldg. 72, who went with them.

### GE Head Recommends Mobilizing Industries

The nation must mobilize both men and industries to meet "the crisis of this hour," GE President Charles E. Wilson told the Senate armed forces committee recently in Washington, D.C.

Wilson endorsed both the draft and universal military training. However, he said UMT could wait until the army, navy and air force are "fully staffed with thoroughly trained personnel", and until "we back up our expanded armed forces by mobilization of industry, stockpiling of critical materials and scientific research."

### 301 Membership Hits New High

The April dues check-off figures showed Local 301 membership at the peacetime high of 15,380.

Since the start of the current membership drive, 957 new members have joined the union. The drive still has one week to go, before the May 1 deadline for joining without having to pay an initiation fee.

### Westinghouse Strike Vote

The UE local at the Westinghouse plant at Cheektowaga, near Buffalo, has voted to strike unless management settles disputes involving job classifications, incentives and grievances by tomorrow (Saturday). The workers voted 2916 to 352 for the strike in a secret ballot last week. The local continued negotiations with management this week in an attempt to reach settlement.

WEAR YOUR UNION BUTTON

### Bargains Today—Ham, Eggs, Bacon

Union members can buy bacon, eggs and smoked Cala ham from noon till 8 p.m. today (Friday) at 301 Hall. There also will be bargains from the stock of canned and packaged food and supplies left over from the union's Food Center.

Eggs will sell at 58 cents a dozen; bacon at 64 cents a pound and ham at 45 cents a pound. The hams are five to seven pounds each.

Other bargains include:

Paper towels.....13 cents a pkg.  
Cris Bix ..... 12 cents  
Swirl.....20 cents a pkg.  
Nuts.....30 cents a pound  
Raisins.....10 cents a box  
Dates.....15 cents a box  
Beets.....2 jars, 17 cents  
Toilet-tissue.....2 rolls, 15 cents

The 301 Food Committee is still hunting for a headquarters where the Food Center can be reopened.

### Secession Move Killed; Local 454 Short Funds

UE has submitted evidence to the district attorney's office in Westchester County showing shortages of over \$5,000 in funds of Local 454.

A noted handwriting expert engaged by UE has declared that it is his belief that checks were forged by Thomas L. Smith, formerly president of the local. Smith was leader of an unsuccessful effort to take the local out of UE.

Smith based his anti-union activities on the program of the Carey-Block faction. At one point he succeeded in getting the workers of the North American Philips plant to vote to secede from UE on the basis of UE's refusal to use the Taft-Hartley anti-labor board. When the facts became clear to the membership, Local 454 reversed its secession vote.

### 301 Radio Program Now on Wednesday

The Local 301 weekly radio program has changed from Monday to Wednesday. The hour and station will remain the same, 7:30 p.m. on WSNY. On this week's program, Milo Lathrop interviewed John Steslow, turbine assembler in Bldg. 60, and Richard Burgoyne, piece worker in Bldg. 89, on the importance of the union's contract proposals on seniority and piece work.

### Scouting for Talent

Mrs. Dorothy Perlin, who has charge of auditions for the Local 301 talent bureau... She will train union members for skits, plays and entertainments... The first project will be a variety show.



### Pension Victory For Coal Miners

The coal miners have won their battle for \$100 pensions in spite of the combined efforts of the mine owners and President Truman to defeat them through the Taft-Hartley law.

All miners over 62 years old who retire after 20 years' service are to receive the \$100 a month, under the agreement won Apr. 12 by the United Mine Workers (unaffiliated). Included in this pension plan are all such miners who retired after May 29, 1946. About 500,000 miners are represented by the union.

Miners stopped working 29 days before the pension settlement was made, in protest against the owners' refusal to negotiate the pension plan as called for by their contract. President Truman started injunction proceedings against the miners under the Taft-Hartley law. Even after the pension settlement, Federal Judge T. Alan Goldsborough continued the trial of the UMW and of John L. Lewis, union president, for contempt of the Taft-Hartley injunction. He fined the union \$1,400,000 and Lewis, \$20,000.

Local 301 and UE locals throughout the country pledged support to the mine workers in their pension fight. As pointed out in the 301 resolution, the struggle "is the same as our own demand for adequate GE pensions."

Like UE, the United Mine Workers has refused to file affidavits with the Taft-Hartley Board or put itself under the anti-labor board's jurisdiction in any way.

### Reprinting EU News

During contract negotiations, pages 1 and 2 of the EU News are reprinted each week for distribution to all GE locals in District 5. For that reason, stories concerning only Schenectady are in general being kept on pages 3 and 4 during this period.