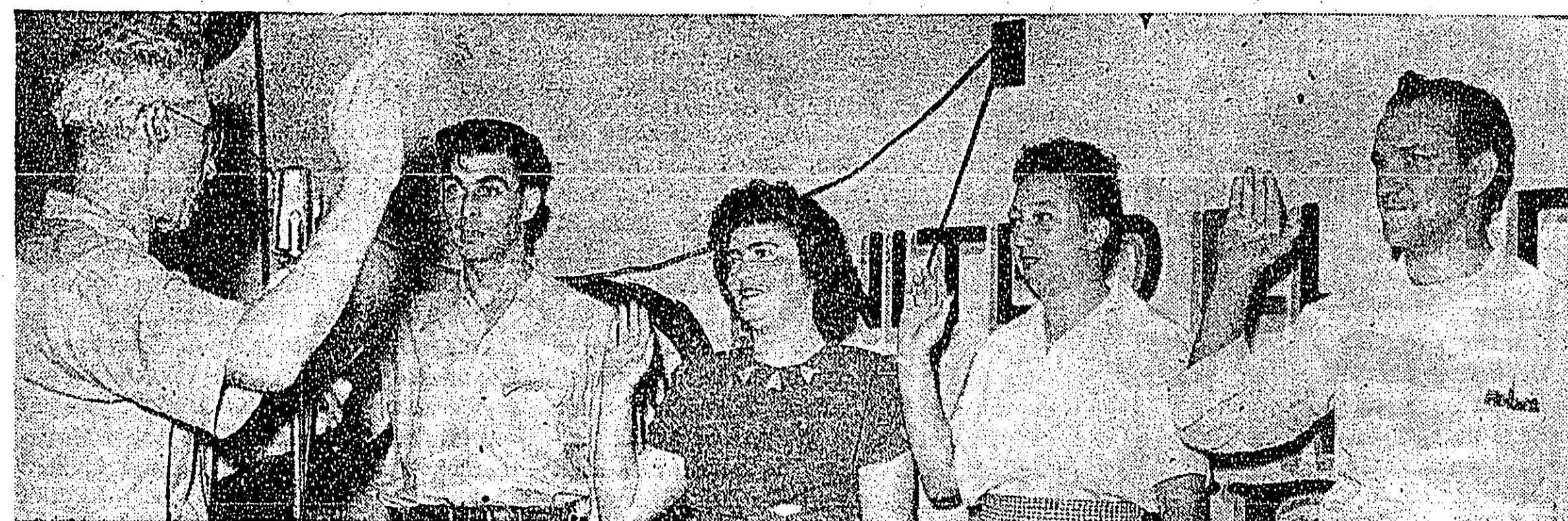


New Shop Stewards—There's a Big Job Ahead of Them



George Walker, Local 301 guide, at extreme left, administers oath of office to four new shop stewards: left to right, Edmund Kelley, Bldg. 37; Marjorie Decker, Bldg. 60; Melvina Smith, Bldg. 60, and Gene Szezepanik, Bldg. 69.

Turbine Overtime

(Continued from Page 1)

we used to turn out in 8 hours. The company wants more production, and we have made suggestions which would help to get the extra production they want. Our only requirement is that our people be paid for their extra efforts. We regret to say that our suggestions . . . have been turned down by the management.

Such Schemes Spread

"About 860 of us are involved at the present time — but schemes like this one have a way of spreading, like weeds in the garden. Every time the management succeeds in speeding up production without passing any of the benefits along to the workers, they will be encouraged to try the same thing in other departments.

"Every speed-up in production will eventually mean fewer jobs. When the present rush of orders is over, the speed-up will mean lay-offs — and everybody knows what that means. This is not something we are guessing at — it happened before, during the depression of 1929 and 1930. Many of you remember those days. I invite every man and woman who is listening this evening, to join with the union in helping at least to delay the arrival of another depression. The action of our members in the Turbine Division is a part of that larger program."

Leland Stowe on Air

The Leland Stowe broadcast, sponsored by the national UE, is at 7:30 every Wednesday on WSNY, WABY and WBCA (FM).

Board Orders 50 Copies Of 'Fascism in Action'

The Local 301 Executive Board voted Aug. 5 to buy 50 copies of "Fascism in Action", a report prepared by the Library of Congress on fascism abroad. A foreword by Representative Wright Patman of Texas shows how the lessons learned in Europe apply here at home.

Patman and other liberal Congressmen had to fight to get the House of Representatives to have even 1500 copies of the report printed. One of the Congressmen who tried to keep the document from the American public gave two chief reasons for his objections to printing it:

1. The report mentioned Franco Spain as a fascist state.
2. It linked American Big Business to Nazis through cartel agreements.



Be a Good Citizen -
GIVE TO PAC!

GE Named by Elliott Among Wartime Hosts

In all the columns of newspaper hullabaloo about war contracts, Howard Hughes, Senator Brewster, and Elliott Roosevelt, you would have had great difficulty finding the fact that young Roosevelt testified that he had been entertained by a number of big companies interested in war contracts. He named General Electric as one of the companies.

However, in this case the important thing is not that GE was mentioned. The important point to working people is that the Republican majority of the Senate investigating committee is making the big fuss over Hughes serve two purposes: smearing the name of FDR, and drawing attention away from the way the really big companies, with their men in war production posts, profited from the war at the expense of the people.

Hughes is a millionaire, but is still small fry in industry.

New Tax on Workers' Pay Beaten by PAC Drive

Minneapolis (UENS)—A whirlwind PAC campaign in Minneapolis has defeated a vicious 1% payroll tax proposal which would have put a burden on small businessmen and wage earners and exempted corporations and stockholders. Bucking the local newspapers and powerful groups supporting the tax, UE and other CIO members canvassed house to house through their PAC ward and shop committees, went over the air, distributed 100,000 leaflets. Result: 102,000 voted against the tax; only 50,000 for it. The biggest union in the city, UE played a leading role in the campaign.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

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SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

August 22, 1947

Joint Body Set Up On Bus Complaints

On the initiative of the Local 301 transportation committee just set up, a joint committee of city, bus company,



Mary McCartin



Anthony Villano

and union representatives will meet from time to time to take up complaints regarding bus service to and from work. GE also will be asked to send representatives, as well as ALCO and Steel Local 2054.

The 301 committee includes Mary McCartin, Willard Kuschel, and Anthony Villano. It was set up by the Executive Board because of the frequent complaints of inadequate service to and from the works, and of scheduled buses being skipped. Members are invited to send suggestions to this committee.

Together with President Andrew Peterson, the committee met Wednesday with Arthur Blessing, city traffic director, A. Frank Geiler, president of Schenectady Railway, and Lewis Benedict and Alton Petseys, president and secretary of Transport Workers 159.

The meeting discussed various complaints from GE workers, and suggestions for rerouting of bus lines, and changing traffic regulations during rush hours.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 3.

GE Boston Lamp Plant Fires 44 When Heat Makes Them Stop

Boston, Mass. — General Electric's East Boston lamp plant has given dismissal notices, effective this week-end, to 44 workers here who stopped work last Friday because of the intense heat and humidity.

Members Protest Training Militia to Break Strikes

Reports that the national guardsmen who left last week for Camp Smith were to be given training in strikebreaking brought action by Tuesday's membership meeting, which called upon Congressman Bernard T. Kearney, as a representative and a general, to take action to "see to it that our national guardsmen are given training in their stated duty of defense only."

The letter approved by the membership declared:

"We have members and members' sons in the National Guard, and we consider it a disgrace to our democracy to have the citizens' militia prepared for undemocratic purposes."

On August 12 the Schenectady Gazette carried the story about training the national guardsmen in "riot control" to meet the danger of "subversive groups" bringing "mass chaos." The union letter declared the story was "fantastic", and obviously intended to cover up a plan to call a strike a "riot", and use the militia "to help Big Business in its efforts to crush industrial workers through the Taft-Hartley law."

The letter pointed out that individual members of the Guard know that the proposed "riot control" is nothing but strikebreaking and do not like it. It declared that "it is high time that those in authority started to act as well as talk democracy."

Back Pay Raise Won

Back pay for two toolmakers in Building 46 was won in a recent grievance meeting with Louis Male, general superintendent, when Male agreed that on their return to the tool room they should have been given the increase which had taken place during their absence. At the time the toolmakers' case was settled, they were working on boring mills.

BUILD THE UNION

This was reported to be the largest group of firings anywhere in the GE system in years. It was seen as reflecting the company's new attitude.

UE Local 224 is asking the local management to rescind the notices as unjustified.

There are about 400 workers in the plant. The 44 were part of a larger group who stopped work because of the heat. A letter from the plant management to the local union declared that the 44 were being fired because they also had participated in a stoppage last March.

The men stopped work while their committee was in a meeting with management talking over closing the plant. The previous day, Thursday, the company had announced before 10 a.m. that it would close at noon because of the heat. On Friday the heat was the same and the official record showed the humidity to be even worse. The men became impatient when the company delayed its announcement to close the plant. The plant did close at noon, after the men had stopped work.

Wallace Mass Meeting Likely Here in October

An executive board committee is looking into the possibilities of holding a mass meeting here to hear Henry Wallace. The board named the committee after being advised that the Progressive Citizens of America was arranging upstate speaking dates for the former vice-president, and thought a date late in October would be possible for Schenectady.

The board committee includes Vice-President William Hodges, Recording Secretary Helen Quirini, James Cognetta, Willard Kuschel, Dewey Brashear, and William Templeton, alternate for Charles Ferris.

Ask Special Session To Reduce Prices

A request to President Truman to call an immediate special session of Congress to restore price control and roll back prices was voted unanimously by the membership meeting Tuesday night.

A letter by President Andrew Peterson to President Truman, authorized by the meeting, said in part:

"You have urged price reduction. We respectfully suggest that Big Business will not listen to appeals, and will reduce prices only if forced to do so by government action. Every week additional figures come out showing that big corporations are making new record profits. In fact, they are engaged in a wild profit spree at the expense of the people.

"Since the death of OPA, prices have run so far ahead of wages that the NAM propaganda about wage rises causing price rises has been thoroughly debunked. Price rises have resulted from the greed for profits, and wages are engaged in a desperate race to keep up with prices. Even those workers who won the full wage pattern established by our union are still lagging far behind the cost of living.

"This situation is causing severe hardship for American working people. Even more serious is the fact that the current inflation is reducing the purchasing power of the people in such a way as to make a crash inevitable.

"We ask you to act before it is too late."

Put Refuse in Garbage Cans

Hot weather every year makes the life of the salvage department workers unbearable, just because some of their fellow-members are unwilling to be careful where they throw lunch remnants. Among the scrap barrels brought to them to sort and bale are always a few barrels containing garbage. At this time of the year the refuse spoils fast. The men wonder if it is too much to ask all workers to be careful and throw garbage in refuse barrels only.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

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SCHENECTADY PRINTING CO., INC.



If these blankety blank workers don't take a pay cut, they won't be able to make a living...

Members Order Trial Of Three in Slander

Officers of Local 301 were ordered by the membership meeting Tuesday night to press charges against a few members who were accused of meeting with Sal Vottis on August 3 to prepare a statement smearing the union, which appeared two days later in the Gazette.

Named specifically were Frank Fiorillo, who calls himself chairman of the "Democratic Action Committee", and Martin Stanton and C. J. Di Girolamo, stewards in Building 69. They will be charged with violating the Constitution by taking their fight outside the union before exhausting the procedure within the union.

Will Elect Trial Committee

The executive board recommendation to press the charges carried by 113 to 36, on a standing vote. Under the trial provision of the constitution, a trial committee of nine will be elected by the September membership meeting to hear the charges. The trial committee's report and recommendations will be acted on by the October membership meeting.

Business Agent Leo Jandreau read an affidavit naming the three among a

small group who met with Vottis. Vottis is the former 301 financial secretary who testified against Local 301 before the un-American Committee in Washington last month.

Jandreau said that the dissident members had been given full opportunity at all times to present their views on the floor of membership meetings, and that the officers had tried to work with them, but that they now had gone outside the union in a campaign to slander it. He said the men had a right to meet, but not for the purpose of smearing the union. He said the union would continue to fight "any group that tries to use this union."

Fiorillo's Answer

Fiorillo answered by admitting that the meeting with Vottis was held, and by charging that the national and local union leadership were serving the aims of "Russian imperialism."

Vice-President William Hodges supported the proposal to prefer charges against the men. He said:

"I disagree with some of the policies of this union, but it is one of the most democratic there is, and when people go outside this union to smear it, that's undemocratic. It's a violation of the constitution."

Chamber of Commerce Calls for Factions in Unions; Advises Employers on How to Encourage Splitters

(Last week's issue of this paper carried the story of the visit here by Earl O. Shreve, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and vice-president of GE on leave, and Shreve's threat to labor to get worse legislation passed than even the Taft-Hartley law. The story pointed out that the Chamber of Commerce is distributing to employers a handbook in union-busting through red-baiting, called "Communists within the Labor Movement." The handbook has been issued to GE foremen. In this issue and the next one the contents of this booklet are summarized.)

The Chamber's approach is identical with that of Senator Ives, and Taft and Hartley, in the Taft-Hartley law, that union-busting was needed for "the good of labor." Indeed, Shreve was one of the boosters of the Taft-Hartley bill, and many of its provisions are designed to carry out the booklet's recommendations.

Faction Is Wanted

The handbook is directed to employers and to conscious or unconscious employer stooges within the union. It proceeds to warn employers that the red-baiting attack on union leaders must be made by a faction within the union, and that the company must not assist the faction in such a way as to label its members "company tools." The employer is warned that he cannot "openly" permit factional activity by red-baiters "during working time."

The Chamber is quick to point out the rewards to employers of this kind of activity:

"Such internal union disputes are making almost daily headlines in the nation's press. Photostats of these articles or their headlines can be used quite effectively" (where a plant is still unorganized).

How to Play Ball

At the same time the Chamber points out to employers how it can play ball with the red-baiting faction.

And Now CIO Diapers

Your baby can now wear a union label. At least the label will be there in spirit. There was a lot of company stalling, but Dy Dee Diaper Service of this city has signed a closed shop agreement with Local 492 of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, CIO. The wage raises average between 15 and 18 cents an hour. The contract provides for one week's vacation after one year, two weeks after two years, six paid holidays, and maternity leave without loss of seniority. Robert Northrop, secretary of the Capital District Industrial Union Council, assisted in organizing the shop.

301 Broadcast

Don't miss the 301 radio program. It's at 7:15 p.m. every Monday over WSNY.

It declares that "the employer often has real, if thoroughly unconscious influence, in naming of union officers. Small but gracious concessions, frequent consultations and recognition can often build up the stature of a union official . . ."

Employers are reminded not to make things too hard for the red-baiters on grievances, so they don't have to fight both the employer and the "Communists." They are reminded to see "that Communists do not get too much credit for winning good cases." To carry this out, if a grievance is good, the employer is told to ask a "decent" union official for his comment, and when this "decent" official favors the grievance, then the employer is to say "yes" so some "Communist" will not get the credit.

Advice to Foremen

The booklet also gives practical advice to foremen such as this:

"To preserve morale, he (the foreman) is on the alert for direct, on-the-spot settlements of problems with the individual worker, avoiding the grievance machinery where possible."

All the above is given in the guise of fighting against "Communism" and for Chamber of Commerce "Americanism". Workers will recognize the pattern. Our next article will tell of the blueprint laid out by the Chamber for factional groups within the union.

St. Paul CIO, AFL Unite To Fight Taft-Hartley Backer

St. Paul, Minn. (UENS) — "Unity for the defense of labor" is the new watchword in this strongly organized city. The St. Paul CIO-AFL United Labor Legislative Committee, in which UE plays a leading part, is mobilizing the full resources of all unions for ward and precinct organization to defeat Senator Ball in 1948 and repeal the Taft-Hartley Act. The AFL in St. Paul has unanimously called on the Minnesota AFL convention to come out for united action with all groups supporting the cause of labor.

Veterans' Service Center

The Veterans' Service Center of Local 301 is open from 1 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Friday at the union hall.

UE Board Stresses Care on T-H Clauses

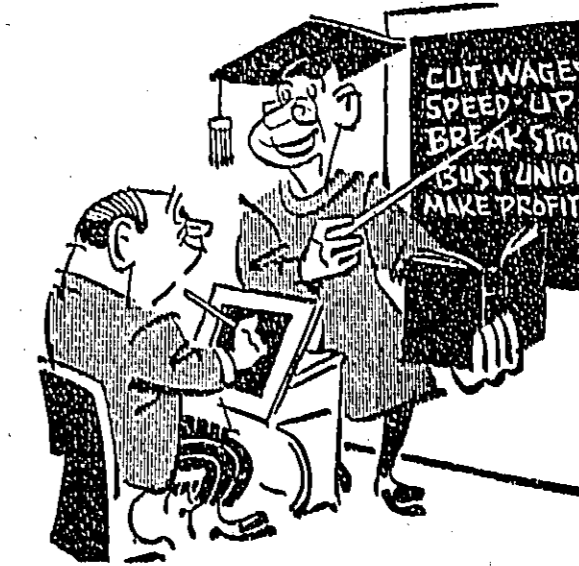
New York (UENS) — Employers who sincerely intend to abide by the terms of union contract and maintain stable and orderly bargaining relationships without resorting to the use of the Taft-Hartley Act for union-busting will show their good faith by agreeing in union contracts not to use the provisions of the Act, in the opinion of the General Executive Board of the UE.

The GEB, which discussed the question of contract provisions under Taft-Hartley at its recent meeting at the UE National Office, agreed that extreme care should be used in contract negotiations on this question.

While there has been a great deal of newspaper publicity recently on the question of contract clauses which ban Taft-Hartley suits against Unions, the consensus of the UE Board was that union contract negotiators should be exceedingly careful to see to it that they do not fall into the trap of preserving the union treasury from suits, at the expense of the membership. Some such contract clauses that have been reported give the employer license to penalize workers in the shop, or prohibit the union from coming to their support, in exchange for a promise not to sue the union. Such a clause, of course, however tempting it may seem, violates the most important union principle, which is, before all, to protect and advance the interests of the membership.

Union-Busting Course Given to Employers

St. Louis (UENS) — A refresher course in the arts of union-busting, strike-breaking and the use of seabs, stool-pigeons and thugs was attended recently by 800 Missouri employers. It was held



here under the auspices of the Associated Industries of Missouri to show employers how to use the Taft-Hartley law. A number of employers under UE contract were there.