

Been Tapped Yet For Company Poll?

Mr. Gallup will have to look to his laurels. The company is taking a poll of its own in the shops.

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, notified the union office about the poll Tuesday. He said the workers to be questioned would be picked impartially, probably every 20th person.

In answer to union inquiries about the nature of the questions, Stevens said he didn't know, except that some of them would concern the Works News. Probably the company would ask people how they liked the Works News and how they thought it could be improved, Stevens said.

Sure enough, the first reports from workers summoned to plant offices showed that the company is very curious about their reaction to the Works News. And also about their reaction to EU News.

One worker said he was asked whether he'd be willing to pay 2 cents for a copy of the Works News. He said he'd be willing to pay 2 cents for the union paper but not for Works News!

Another worker was asked whether he got his information about GE from the newspapers, Works News, union meetings or the union paper.

Maybe the survey is being made to produce some new ideas for those little pictures which illustrate the new advertisements signed by L. R. Boulware, GE vice-president in charge of labor relations.

The union is looking into the possibility that the questioning may take the form of pressuring or intimidating workers.

It's Not Hard to Figure Out

Add this item showing GE supervision's current interest in the internal affairs of Local 301:

Last week certain members in Bldg. 73-A, who have been supporting the so-called "Democratic Action" group, spread word around the shop that there would be a meeting to tell about the stories retailed by Sal Vottis before the un-American committee, smearing officers of the local. There was no objection from any foreman.

But when a group in Bldg. 60 recently talked about their carbonyl speed-up difficulties during their lunch hour, the foreman called it a "meeting" and threatened the shop steward with "drastic action."

Union Is Helping Them Fight High Food Prices



Busy day at the 301 Food Center. Cashiers from the union office hardly have time to take a deep breath, there's such a demand for the food bargains.

Drive Continues For PAC \$\$\$\$

Local 301's drive to collect voluntary dollar donations for PAC will continue in full force through Oct. 31.

The Executive Board voted Monday to extend the period because in some shops the campaign is just getting underway. Stewards who have completed one PAC collection book and started second ones report that with a little more time they can "up" their collections considerably.

Vote for Veterans' Bonus

The 301 Executive Board recommends that union members vote for Amendment I, for a state veterans' bonus, in the Nov. 4 elections.

The Board pointed out that the bonus should be financed by taxes on people with upper bracket incomes and on large corporation incomes. Labor must put pressure on the state legislature next winter to see that such taxes are imposed, instead of letting Governor Dewey use an increase in the cigarette tax to foot the bill.

Veterans' Program Approved by UE

Four main points, housing, jobs, GI Bills of Rights and the bonus, are covered in the veterans' program endorsed by the national UE convention.

The convention urged that the federal government immediately start constructing 3,000,000 low cost homes. It favored immediate passage of the Wagner-Ellender-Taft and Taylor-Douglas bills, and similar state legislation.

It demanded that a national public works program be started at once to absorb the unemployed veterans.

The program calls for higher subsistence allowances under the GI Bill of Rights for on-the-job and apprentice trainees and for students; for allowing unemployed veterans to draw readjustment allowances at least until July 1, 1951, and for repealing the section of the GI Bill which disqualified veterans from receiving readjustment allowances while on strike.

The convention favored a federal bonus of \$3 a day for service in this country and \$4 a day for overseas service to a maximum of \$3500 and \$4500, in addition to a \$500 bonus for each war injury. It also asked for adequate state bonus plans.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

Vol. 5 - No. 41

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

October 31, 1947

301 Endorses Non-Partisan Slate

UE Members Running for Rotterdam Offices



These three members of Local 301 are running for office in Rotterdam with the union's endorsement. Left to right, Shop Steward William Templeton, ALP candidate for Town Council; Shop Steward Roy Hamilton, Democratic and ALP candidate for Town Council, and William Alheim, Republican and ALP candidate for supervisor. Alheim's opponent is a GE foreman, James Riley, one of the few foremen who worked in the plant during the strike.

Shop Surveys Asked On 1948 Contract

Final action on the proposed wage structure negotiations will be taken by Local 301 shop stewards at their meeting Nov. 11 at the union hall. The other main point of business will be discussion of 1948 GE contract proposals.

Second shift stewards will meet at 1 p.m. and first and third shift stewards at 7:30 p.m. Because Tuesday, Nov. 4, is Election Day, the stewards' session was postponed to Nov. 11.

Leo Jandreau, business agent, sent a letter to all stewards urging them, in preparation for the meeting, to discuss 1948 contract proposals with the members in their shops.

A questionnaire was sent to each steward asking him to write down his own ideas and the ideas of the workers he represents about strengthening, clarifying and improving the contract. The forms should be returned to the union office not later than next Wednesday.

KEEP SIGNING UP UNION MEMBERS

Appeals Increase For Blood Donors

GE workers in need of blood transfusions for themselves and families are coming more and more to rely upon their Local 301 stewards to find the donors from among their fellow-members.

Steward J. W. Brown of the Patrol department is asking for donors to help the family of Edward P. Ryan, shop steward in the same department, who died Aug. 22 at Ellis Hospital. Before his death he was given 10 pints of blood. If they are not replaced by volunteers, it will impose a severe financial hardship on Mrs. Ryan. Donors should see Brother Brown or go to Ellis Hospital and give to the blood bank, to be credited to Mrs. Ryan's account.

In 73-A, Charles Bradt, layout man, is back after being ill since January. He needs donors to cover the transfusions he was given at Ellis Hospital. Volunteers may go to the hospital or see Chief Steward William Mastriani in 73-A.

Antonio Tommasone, truck operator in 46, recently appealed to Steward Joseph Krone for donors for his wife. He needed three donors. Four volunteered.

Members Urged To Volunteer For PAC Work

The 301 membership meeting Tuesday night unanimously endorsed a non-partisan list of candidates for city, county and town officers as recommended by the 301-PAC committee, the Executive Board and the Stewards' Council.

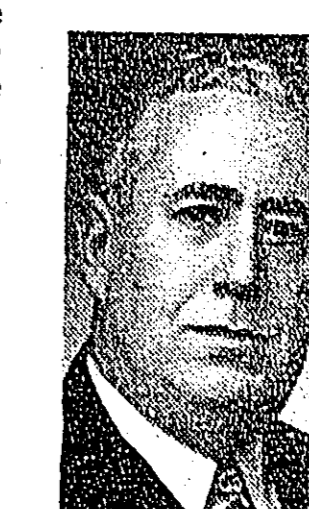
The list is made up of Republican, Democratic and American Labor Party candidates, who have pledged their support to the 301-PAC program. All the candidates except one are running on the ALP ticket, Roy C. Those on the list who are Democratic or Republican nominees are running on two lines.

The 301-PAC program which all endorsed candidates support calls for repeal of the Taft-Hartley law and a return to the Roosevelt program of peace, jobs and security. Applied on a local basis, the program advocates reducing the outrageously high assessments on small home-owners and placing the proper tax load on GE and ALCO. It calls for better pay for city and county employes, for a municipal housing program and other improvements.

Heading the slate endorsed by 301 is Leo H. Vosburg, running for reelection for public welfare commissioner. He is the Republican and ALP candidate.

The city 301 ticket is headed by Allen Townsend, ALP candidate for mayor, a member of the local.

Other endorsed candidates are: City Council, four years. Milo Lathrop, legislative director of District 3, UE; (Continued on Page 3)



Leo H. Vosburg

Business Increases At 301 Food Center

All signs point to a record-breaking business today and tomorrow at the 301 Food Center, 106 Church St.

Union members will be able to buy eggs, apples, oranges, potatoes, carrots, celery, cider, grapefruit, spinach, tomatoes, iceberg lettuce, cauliflower, onions and cold slaw. There may be honey dew melons and lemons if the Food Price Committee was able to buy them at reasonable enough prices.

When EU News went to press, James Cognetta, committee chairman, was unable to cite the prices for this weekend. Can't Predict Prices

"The market shifts from day to day," he said. "If we can't guarantee a substantial saving on a certain item, we change our plans at the last minute and don't buy it."

Union members and their families bought over \$2500 worth of food last weekend at the store. The center will be open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. tomorrow. Food will be sold to people showing 301 cards.

The center ran short of eggs and spinach last week and was unable to replenish its supply for the late Saturday purchasers. It had to get repeat orders on other food items in stock, except onions and Long Island potatoes, to meet the heavy demand.

1000 Bags of Onions
There wasn't any onion shortage, because the committee had purchased 1000 bags (10 pounds per bag) shortly before the store opened last Friday. There also were some 50 pound bags which were quickly snapped up.

The committee has ordered 3,000 dozen eggs for this week.

The Food Price Committee reports that several large Schenectady markets are now apparently trying to undersell Local 301 on certain foods, particularly potatoes and apples. According to reports, they are selling these foods considerably below the price they paid distributors for them.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO
SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

Published by the Editorial Committee
William Templeton, Chairman
Mary McCartin, Secretary

Willard Kuschel, Editor
Leland Sisto, Editor

Editorial Office - Electrical Union News
301 Liberty St., Schenectady, N. Y.

Telephone 3-1386
SCHENECTADY PRINTING CO., INC.

On City Slate

A member of Local 301, Allen Townsend, is ALP candidate for mayor of Schenectady, with backing of the union. The local has also endorsed three candidates for four-year terms on the City Council, Milo Lathrop, UE legislative director of District 3; Marie Sweeney, 301, and Leonard Colasuono of the Laundry Workers, CIO, all ALP.



Allen Townsend



Marie Sweeney



Milo Lathrop

301 Protests to GE About Interference

Local 301 has protested to GE management against recent instances of supervisory employees interfering in the internal affairs of the union and has asked for an immediate investigation.

R. D. Van Nordstrand, industrial heating and welding engineer in Bldg. 96, spoke on four difference occasions between Sept. 19 and Oct. 6 to Smeralda De Cesare, laborer in that building, about De Cesare's chances for advancement. His remarks were to the general effect that De Cesare had ability to get ahead if he would show his "loyalty" to the company, but that his "loyalty" was in doubt because of the time he gave to union activity. Van Nordstrand suggested that a good way to prove "loyalty" would be by becoming active in support of the "Democratic Action" group in the union. On one occasion General Foreman Palmatier, whose office is in Bldg. 105, was present and supported Van Nordstrand's statement.

The union also protested anti-union remarks made by George L. Sholtes, piece rate man, to Joseph Rotundo, shop steward in Bldg. 73A, during a time study Oct. 13. Sholtes said, "The trouble with your union is that it's run by Reds."

Nominating Meeting November 18 and 19

The annual nomination of officers will take place next month at a 301 membership meeting which will be conducted in two parts. First and third shift workers will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18, at the union hall and second shift workers at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, also at the hall. The votes taken at the two sessions will be totaled.

The 301 Constitution and By-Laws provide that nominations for office shall be made from the floor at the regular November meeting of the local. Elections must take place in December and officers must be installed in January.

The order of nominations, as set forth by the constitution, is president, vice-president, recording secretary, assistant recording secretary, treasurer, chief shop steward, business agent, trustees, sergeant-at-arms and guide.

Grinder Raises Too Small, Union Informs Management

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, told a union grievance session Oct. 23 that cutter grinder rates throughout the plant will be raised as follows:

The "A" classification would be increased from \$1.40 per hour to \$1.45; the "Intermediate B" from \$1.30 to \$1.35 and the "B" from \$1.26 to \$1.30. Stevens said the company would review the cases of workers now getting \$1.35, who don't come in for any increase under this set-up, and might move some of them to the "A" group.

Grinder rates are still much too low in spite of this adjustment, the union has informed management, and the union will continue to press for larger increases. The union also contends there should be only two classifications, "A" and "B".

Union Field Day Clears \$1,623.45

The annual 301 Field Day this year netted \$1,623.45, after all expenses were paid, including an automobile and other prizes, music, entertainment, refreshments and lost time. The audited report of the Activities Committee showed a total of \$7,396.73 cash received from tickets and concessions, a total of \$5,773.28 expenses and a balance of \$1,623.45.

George Judway is chairman of the Activities Committee and Edward La Bombard, secretary. They submitted the committee's report to the Executive Board recently.

Local 301 Supports Non-Partisan Slate

(Continued from Page 1)

Leonard Colasuono and Marie Sweeney, Local 301, all ALP. City Council, two years, Robert Jacobsen, Local 301, ALP.

Supervisors.
First Ward. Jacob Slaughter, ALP.
Second Ward. Albert Male, Democratic and ALP.

Third Ward. Belle Baxter, Local 301, ALP.
Fourth Ward. Edgar A. Smith, Democratic and ALP.

Fifth Ward. Fred Cameron, Local 301, Democratic candidate and Mrs. Ethel Etkin, Republican and ALP.

Sixth Ward. Ralph Tullio, Local 301, ALP.

Seventh Ward. George Judway, Local 301, ALP.

Eighth Ward. Chester Trombly, Democratic and ALP.

Ninth Ward. Bernard J. Franken, Democratic and ALP.

Tenth Ward. Alfred Pelrah, Local 301, ALP.

Eleventh Ward. No candidate endorsed.

Twelfth Ward. Dr. Henry V. D. Allen, ALP.

Thirteenth Ward. John Dalton, Democratic and ALP.

Fourteenth Ward. George Watson, retired 301 member, ALP.

Rotterdam. William Alheim, Local 301, Republican and ALP.

Glenville. William Hodges, Local 301 vice-president, ALP.

Rotterdam Town Council, two seats. Roy Hamilton, Local 301, Democratic and ALP, and William Templeton, Local 301, ALP.

Rotterdam superintendent of highways. Raymond Gordon, Republican, Democratic and ALP.

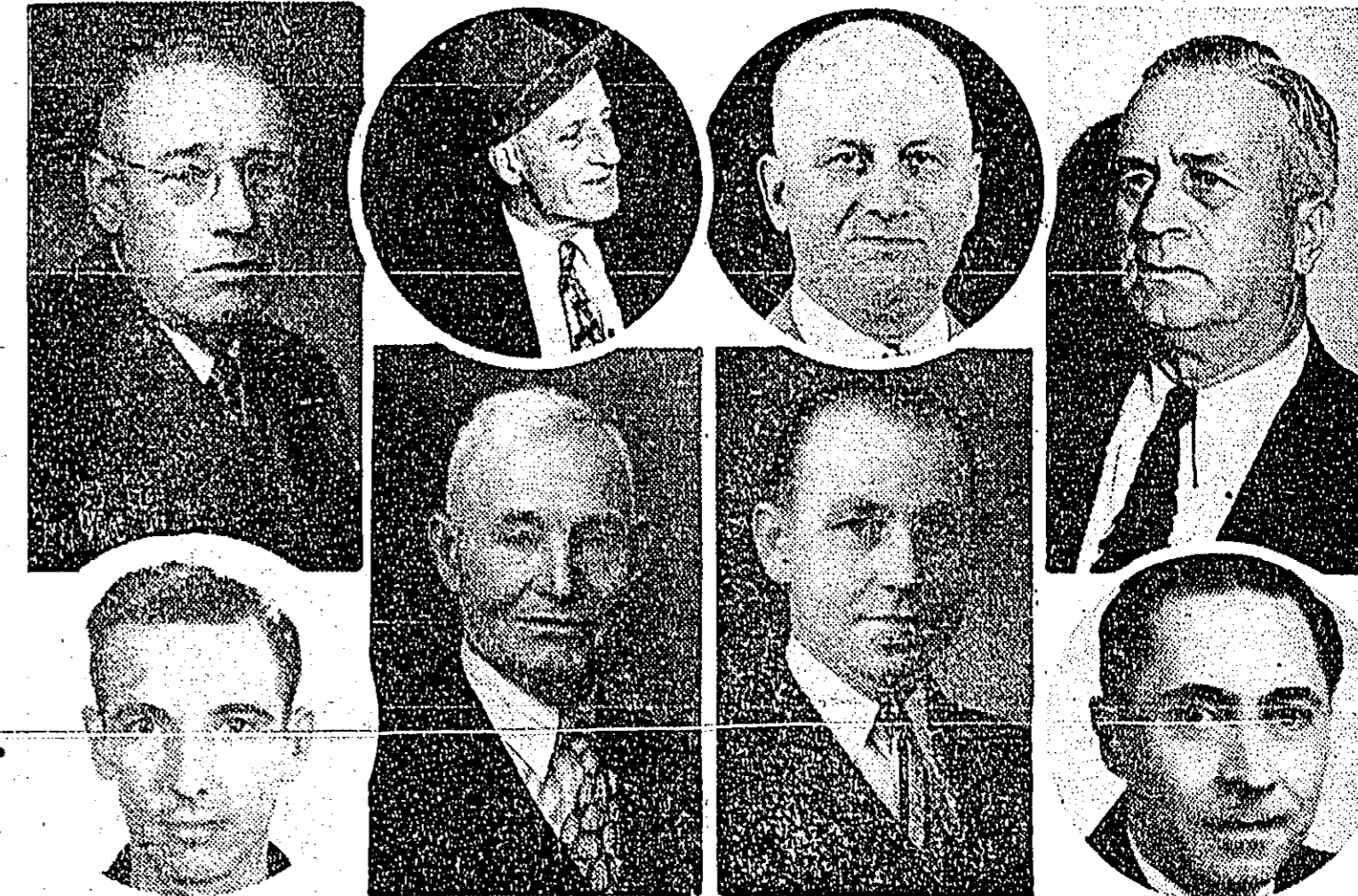
Glenville superintendent of highways. Frank Parker, Democratic and ALP.

The meeting urged that 301 members volunteer to campaign for the men and women endorsed by the union and to bring out a good vote Election Day, next Tuesday.

By decision of the membership, 301-PAC will rely chiefly on such volunteers. Where it is absolutely necessary for key workers to be called from their regular work Election Day, the meeting decided, actual lost time will be paid.

The 301 membership also recommended that union members vote "Yes" on Amendment 1, the soldiers' bonus.

Backed by 301 for Board of Supervisors



Candidates for supervisor supported by Local 301. Top row, left to right, Bernard J. Franken, Alfred J. Pelrah, E. A. Smith and Fred Cameron. Below, left to right, George Judway, Albert Male, John Dalton and Chester Trombly. Pictures of other endorsed candidates were not received in time to be included.

CIO Emphasizes Need For Political Action

The National CIO Convention in Boston this month called on every CIO union to swing immediately into a vigorous campaign of political action against the enemies responsible for the Taft-Hartley law, profiteering and other threats to the civil rights and the living standards of the people.

The convention renewed the pledge of the CIO "to speak and act through free, independent, unbossed political action for the building of a strong, well-fed, well-housed, free and secure nation in a world at peace."

Un-American Committee Denounced
Other resolutions condemned the current drive against civil liberties and denounced the Dies-Thomas-Rankin Un-American Committee as "a menace to the freedom of our people."

The delegates, in a separate resolution pledging a fight-to-the-finish against the Taft-Hartley law, declared the CIO would not let "the blackmail, the threats and the smears of legislative hatchmen operating through the House Labor and Un-American Committees divide or deter us."

The resolution on "protection of democracy" pointed to alarming violations of the rights of religious, racial and political minorities.

"No man's freedom is safe as long as

the freedom of another is threatened," the convention declared.

Relief Without Strings

The foreign policy resolution supported the sending of food and other economic aid by the United States to war-devastated countries, but declared that "under no circumstances should food or any other aid given by any country be used as a means of coercing free but needy people in the exercise of their rights of independence and self-government, or to fan the flames of civil warfare."

All the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

Election of Stewards

Leo Jandreau, 301 business agent, has reminded Executive Board members by letter that under the constitution the annual election of shop stewards in all departments of the plant must be held in October.

PAC Workers to Meet

A meeting has been called at 8 p.m. tonight at 301 hall for all members of the union who will work for PAC at the polls Election Day. The 301-PAC Committee scheduled the meeting.

National UE Broadcast

Tune in on the National UE broadcast featuring Arthur Gaeth, ace radio reporter, at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday