

## Lay-Offs Continue At 300 Monthly

Lay-offs are continuing at the rate of about 300 a month, and will continue at this rate through September, A. C. Stevens, assistant works manager, told the 301 grievance committee last week. He did not make a forecast beyond September.

Hourly-rated workers out for lack of work as of August 1 totaled 1,150. Some of those laid-off during July were absorbed by the expansion which took place in Turbine and the laboratories.

Handling of the drop in work which has developed in Welded Products is still being discussed with Stevens and in the division. After one discussion in the division, Stevens said a check showed the drop would definitely average about one day's work a week for the 400 workers in the division, even though some might not be affected. A pick-up is expected in November. Some skilled workers are being loaned to other divisions, principally Turbine, before considering lay-offs. The workers in the division are insisting on a full work week.

In an effort to bring to a head the question of calling back laid-off women workers with service from March 1943 or earlier, the union has filed formal grievances claiming back pay for lost time for two of these women who have been out over nine weeks despite clear lump rights. Stevens and Charles G. Marcy, personnel director, admitted last week that there are some short service women on the payroll, but insisted that the process of calling back the longer service workers has moved well under the circumstances.

### Jobless Pay Pickets

(Continued from Page 1)

a week, with additional for dependents, for the full period of unemployment;

3. Emergency funds to improve the services of the unemployment division;

4. Increased home-relief allowances;

5. A state "52-20" for veterans; 6. Shift taxes from low-income to high income groups.

In addition to Northrop, the 301 committee on unemployment includes President Frank Kriss and Board Members Stanley Bishop, Henry Kaminski and William Mastriani. Its program was approved by the July membership meeting.

## Triumph



### Woman Worker Awarded \$1,643 for Eye Injury

A workmen's compensation referee recently awarded \$1,643 to Lucy Zeppetelli, spot welder in Building 53, against the General Electric Company for an eye injury suffered July 7, 1948.

Other awards included the following for finger injuries: \$336 to Thomas Carroll, apprentice machinist in Building 9, injured Jan. 7, 1948; \$240 to Anthony Altieri, Building 273 welder, injured Feb. 14, 1948, and \$144 to Stanley Krezemieski, repair machinist in Building 57, injured last Oct. 18.

For facial scars the following awards were made: \$375 to John Posluszny, packing and shipping, Building 16, injured last Sept. 7; \$300 to Earl Callahan, Building 60 assembler, injured last Oct. 23; \$200 to John Dublik, grit blast operator in Building 72-A, injured last Oct. 25; \$185 to Leonard Truax, Building 46 tool maker, injured last Oct. 15; \$135 to Patsy Di Caprio, Building 107 mason helper, injured last Oct. 14, and \$125 to Thaddeus Gardoeki, Building 60 boring mill operator, injured last Oct. 26.

The cases were handled by the 301 attorney, Marshall Perlin.

### Gaeth Program

The weekly broadcast of Arthur Gaeth, sponsored by UE, is at 10 p.m. every Monday on WXXW.

## Turbine Steward Leads Strike Fund

A second shift shop steward in the new Turbine building has set an example of how members will respond to a careful appeal for help for fellow-members fighting our battle on the picketlines.

Steward Richard F. Manell's first return on the collections for the Singer strikers was \$22. Other stewards with outstanding records are Norbert Prusko, Bldg 18, \$0.75, and John Mahar, Bldg. 273, \$0.50.

The membership pledged \$500 weekly to the strike, and ordered the weekly collections to make it up.

### Singer Strikers' Need

In a letter to the stewards explaining the matter, Business Agent Leo Jandreau said last week:

"The Singer strikers, 9,000 of them, have been out for 14 weeks. They are spearheading the fight for OUR issues—a shorter work week with 40 hours' pay, against the speed-up which causes lay-offs and for real job security. Their ranks are solid, but they are up against a big monopoly, which is trying to starve them out. There is no unemployment insurance for strikers in New Jersey and Connecticut—so it's up to us to help these UE members in their need. What they do will make our fight easier."

"The Executive Board, under the membership's direction, feels that small but regular weekly collections are the thing. Some unions have heavy regular assessments. We have no compulsory assessments. As long as you get something from every member, every pay day, it'll do the job."

### Low Dues, Many Services

Union members are going to have to rely on their own resources, to win their rights in the face of increasing difficulties, Jandreau wrote, pointing out that strike donations should not come out of the union treasury. He said:

"With the lowest dues in the labor movement, Local 301 gives its members more services than unions with dues two and three times as high. Personal handling of grievances, free legal servicing of workmen's compensation and unemployment insurance claims, blood donor service, etc., result in our spending every penny we collect in dues. Financial statements are distributed monthly at membership meetings."

Shop stewards have weekly forms for listing contributions.

### Company Union Beaten By UE Singer Strikers

The UE strikers at the Singer Sewing Machine Company, Elizabeth, N. J., recently smashed a company-backed plan to replace UE with an "independent" union. The strikers voted 4,003 to 2,503 to continue to be represented by UE, in an election conducted by the New Jersey Mediation Board.

The company worked hard to try to put over the "independent" union. Letters from the company threatened the strikers that Singer would never deal with UE.

### GE Shuts Down Mt. Vernon Plant

The Mt. Vernon General Electric plant was closed last Friday, throwing out of work the 40 employees remaining from the former force of 175. The others had been laid off earlier.

Parts for the GE's automatic washing machines were made at Mt. Vernon.

### Did You Know?

Even during the depression of the 1930's, when the General Electric Company cut employment by more than one-half and cut its workers' annual earnings by 30 per cent, the company was riding high. It averaged a return of 7 per cent on invested capital then.

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301

U. E. R. & M. W. A.

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## State Help Asked By UE for Jobless

UE this week continued its pressure for action on the part of New York state on the unemployment situation. Representatives of locals in UE Districts 3 and 4, from all parts of the state, called on state officials in Albany Wednesday to present the facts about joblessness in their communities and to demand action.

They called on executives of the State Department of Public Works, the Department of Social Welfare, and the Department of Commerce.

Local 301 was represented by Business Agent Leo Jandreau, who is District 3 president, and by Board Members Henry Kaminski and Joseph Kelly. Reports on the meetings were not available when EU News went to press.

In New York City UE members were scheduled to meet Wednesday with Milton Loysen, state director of the Unemployment Insurance Division, to renew complaints about delays in the issuing of unemployment insurance checks, and refusal of unemployment insurance credits to workers who did not receive vacation pay for all of a vacation shut-down period.

At the 301 membership and stewards' meeting this week UE petitions were distributed urging Governor Dewey to call a special session of the legislature to adopt a program to fight unemployment.

### \$100 Contribution

The Local 301 Executive Board voted \$100 Monday to Local 202, International Fur and Leather Workers Union, CIO, for their struggle against the Tanners Association of Fulton County, Inc.

In May one of the companies in the association locked out its workers. Several others locked out their employees July 1 and since July 15 all the Fur and Leather Workers have been locked out in Gloversville and Johnstown.

### Conference Board

The date for the meeting of the Conference Board of UE locals on the GE contract negotiating deadlock had not been set when this week's issue of EU News went to press. It is expected to take place late in August.

## Scram!



## Resolutions Adopted for Convention

The 301 membership and stewards' meeting this week adopted 11 resolutions to present to the national UE convention in Cleveland Sept. 19 to 23, including a resolution favoring the 30-hour work week with no cut in take-home pay.

Ten delegates were elected to represent 301 at the State CIO Convention at Saratoga Springs Sept. 8, 9 and 10. They are Business Agent Leo Jandreau, who is on the state CIO executive board; 301 Board Members Albert Davis, Sam Scott, Joseph Kelly, John Brauneisen, Henry Kaminski, Edward J. La Bombard Jr., Fred Paccelli, and Sidney Friedlander, and Shop Steward Mary McCartin of Building 28.

The meeting also approved a program for the union for the 1949 city, county and town elections (program is printed on page 3), and approved a report from the 301 committee on unemployment on its activities to date and its proposed plans.

### Resolution on CIO

In a resolution on CIO policy Local 301 calls upon the UE convention to endorse the stand of the General Executive Board of UE that the CIO must return to its original policies and reject the present policies of the top CIO leaders which are splitting the CIO. The resolution urges that the GEB be given authority "to take any necessary action" to protect the integrity and independence of UE in its relations with the CIO, including the right "if necessary to withhold per capita or withdraw from the CIO." (See text of resolution on page 2.)

### 30-Hour Week

The 30 hour week resolution pointed out that "productivity of the American worker has increased enormously through speed-up and more efficient machinery" and that "workers are faced with the immediate problem of unemployment because they are producing

(Continued on page two)

**MAKE GE STOP LAY-OFFS BY A 35 HOUR WEEK**

## 301 Resolution On CIO Policy

The following resolution on CIO policy was adopted by the 301 membership and stewards' meeting this week.

"Local 301 calls upon the 14th annual convention of UE to endorse the statement adopted April 24 by the General Executive Board entitled 'The CIO Must Fight for the People.'

"We call for the return to the basic policies which made a great organization of the CIO and for immediate rejection of the present policies of the top CIO leaders which are splitting the CIO and threatening its existence.

"Labor cannot achieve unity nor improve the conditions of the working people by a policy of dictation from the top, raiding of member unions, nor by becoming the tail to the kite of a political machine, nor by becoming salesmen of Wall Street's foreign policy and agents of Wall Street in splitting the labor movement in countries all over the world.

"There can be unity only on the basis of the autonomy of every union, joint action to achieve labor's wage and contract demands and joint rank and file action to repeal Taft-Hartley, enact progressive legislation and genuine independent political action controlled by the membership in every union without tie-up to any political party.

"We support the General Executive Board in staying in the CIO and fighting for return of the CIO to these original policies. In order that the General Executive Board may have full power to conduct the necessary fight, we call upon the convention to give the Board full authority to take any necessary action in our relations with the CIO, to protect the integrity of UE and the independence of its membership. This authority to include the right, if necessary, to withhold per capita or withdraw from the CIO."

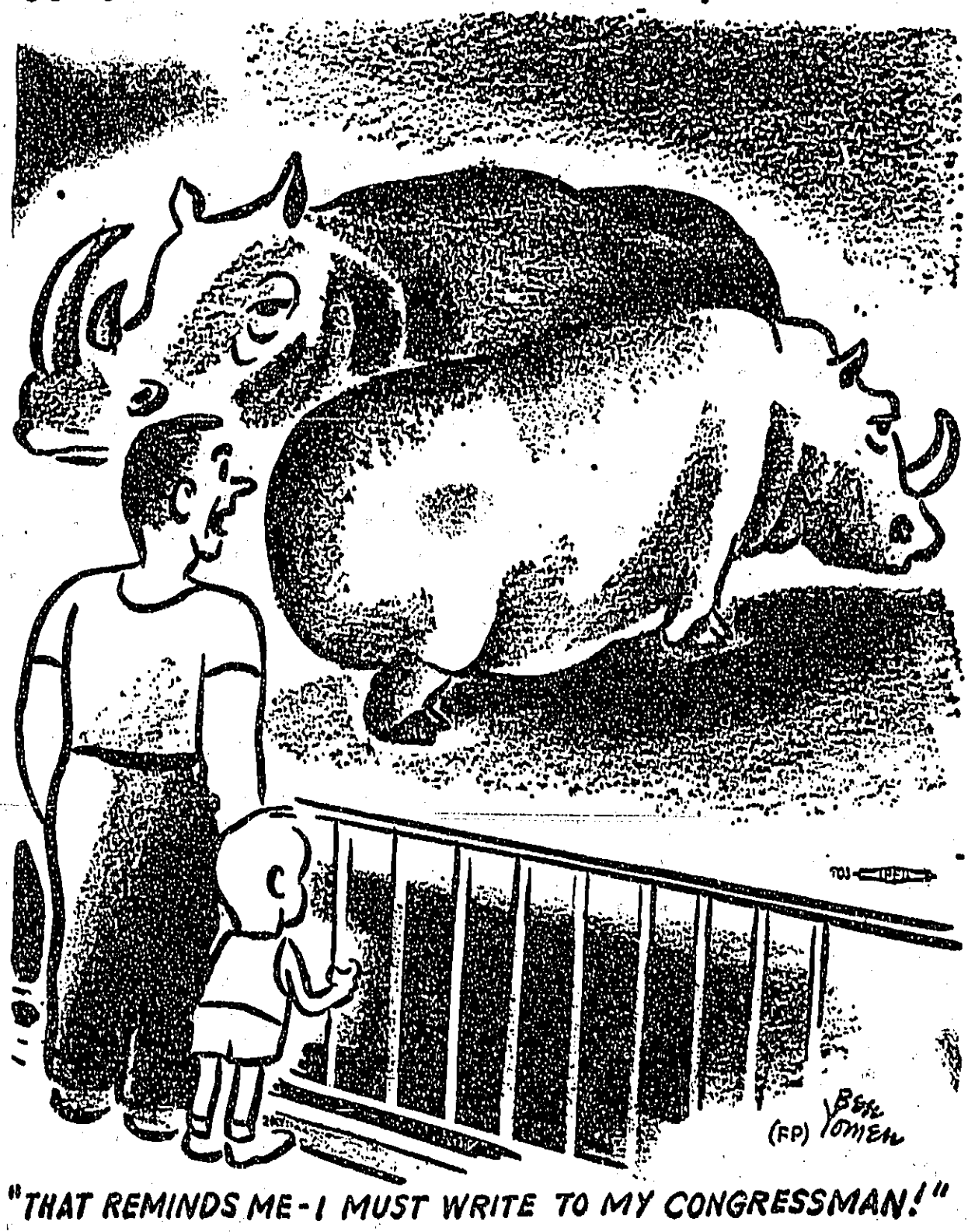
ATTEND THE UNION MEETINGS

**ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS**  
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## CONGRESSMAN DRIPP By YOMEN



"THAT REMINDS ME - I MUST WRITE TO MY CONGRESSMAN!"

## Need More Donations For UE Singer Strike

The need of stepping-up the campaign for collections in the shops for the Singer Sewing Machine strikers was emphasized by several speakers at the stewards' and membership meeting Tuesday night.

"I want to give some money," a woman member declared, "but I don't know who to give it to. Nobody has asked me for any."

She handed in a donation then and there. Although some shop stewards haven't canvassed their groups yet, it was reported that a number of stewards are getting a very good response to the request for regular contributions.

Lillian E. Kendall, a Building 37 shop steward, turned in nine dollars at the meeting. She collected it in her group, consisting of 10 women.

## \$50 for Strikers

A \$50 donation was voted by the 301 Executive Board Monday to the strike of the United Farm Equipment Workers, CIO, against the Columbian Rope Company at Auburn. The 1200 workers went on strike after the company terminated the union contract.

## Ford Workers Authorize Strike by Vote of 7-1

By a 7 to 1 vote, the Ford workers in Michigan have authorized the United Auto Workers to call a strike. The balloting was conducted by a state agency under a Michigan law.

The count listed 65,001 votes for a strike and 9,549 against in 17 Michigan plants. There were 680 ballots set aside.

UAW has demanded \$100 monthly pensions, health benefits and a cost-of-living increase. Ford has insisted that wages be frozen at present levels for 12 months and has turned down other demands.

## Star Collector



Richard F. Mandel, shop steward in the new Turbine building, is the star collector so far for the UE Singer strike. He has turned in \$29.75.

## Resolutions Adopted For UE Convention

(Continued from page one)

more and more goods but are able to buy less and less of what they produce."

A resolution on pensions declared that "either by legislation or collective bargaining or both, every worker 60 years of age or older should be guaranteed an income of \$150 a month for himself or herself, with additional allowances for dependents."

Other resolutions called for:

Increased and continued efforts to fight unemployment and assist the unemployed.

Mobilization of all labor for Taft-Hartley repeal.

Increased taxes on corporation and upper bracket incomes; Federal income tax exemption of \$1,500 for an individual; \$3000 for a married couple and \$500 for each dependent; opposition to sales and all other consumer taxes.

Returning foreign policy to the hands of the people "in order that the Roosevelt program of international peace may be restored and peaceful trade will put our unemployed back to work."

A return by labor to genuine independent political action.

Building of genuine labor unity around such issues as higher wages, shorter hours, adequate pensions, housing, adequate measures for the unemployed, repeal of Taft-Hartley, civil rights, and peace.

An active and continued fight for civil liberties.

Endorsing for reelection the three top UE officers, Albert J. Fitzgerald, president; Julius Emspak, secretary, and James J. Matles, director of organization.

## Unemployed Members

If you are laid off for lack of work, protect your unemployment insurance rights and your job rights at GE by coming to the Local 301 office, corner of Liberty St. and Erie Blvd., immediately.

Be sure to apply for unemployment insurance the day after you leave work.

Keep your union membership by paying 10 cents a month dues.

If your unemployment insurance checks are delayed,

If you have any grievance regarding your unemployment insurance,

If you have any relief or union problem,

Or if you have any problem due to being laid off,

Come to the union hall. The union will do its best to help you.

## 301 Program for 1949 Elections In City, County and Towns

The Local 301 membership and stewards' meeting this week approved the following election program, unanimously recommended by the Executive Board and drawn up by a special committee of the Board.

Local 301 approaches the 1949 Schenectady County and municipal elections from the viewpoint of the common interest of the whole people—the industrial workers and farmers, professional and small business people. It supports the following program for local governing bodies, and believes that every candidate seeking the support of the people should be willing to pledge himself to all its points:

### Taft-Hartley Repeal

All-out support for the repeal of Taft-Hartley and unqualified return to the Wagner Act. The irresponsible actions of the Schenectady City Council, Rotterdam Town Board and County Supervisors in evading this vital issue must be reversed.

### Jobs

Launch municipal and county projects, with state and federal assistance, for work for the unemployed at union wages.

Take special steps to insure equal job opportunities for Negro workers.

Demand a special session of the state legislature to raise unemployment insurance and workmen's compensation benefits, and to correct the state disability law.

Campaign for continuation of veterans "52-20", with increased benefits.

Guarantee adequate welfare relief assistance to the destitute, sick, aged and unemployable.

Give the full support of governing bodies to the union demand for a shorter work week and higher wages, to stop the lay-offs.

### Taxes

No sales tax or payroll tax. Demand increased state aid to the communities and increase the state income tax on the upper brackets for this purpose.

Re-assess all property in Schenectady to make GE and Alco carry their fair share of the tax load, and reduce the load on home-owners.

Seek federal aid for public schools which do not discriminate by reason of race, religion or national origin.

### Public Utilities

Fight to revoke the bus fare increases and return to the 3 tokens for a quarter fare.

Turn over the franchise of the Schenectady Railway Company to a new company which will both give adequate service and continue the union contract with the Transport Workers' Union.

Demand the repeal of the telephone rate increase.

Oppose any increase in gas, light, or other public utility rates.

### Public Administration

Raise the salaries of police, firemen, teachers, and all city and county employees in line with wages in organized plants.

Make all public and civil service jobs open to all without regard to race, religion, national origin or political belief.

Return to the Mayor and Aldermen form of government.

### Education

Build a new high school for the city, and additional schools where needed. Modernize existing school facilities.

Provide for direct election of Schenectady School Board.

### Parks and Streets

Additional parks and playgrounds. Speedy repair and maintenance of streets.

Reorganize the City Planning Commission to give proper representation to the largest group of people, the organized workers.

### Housing

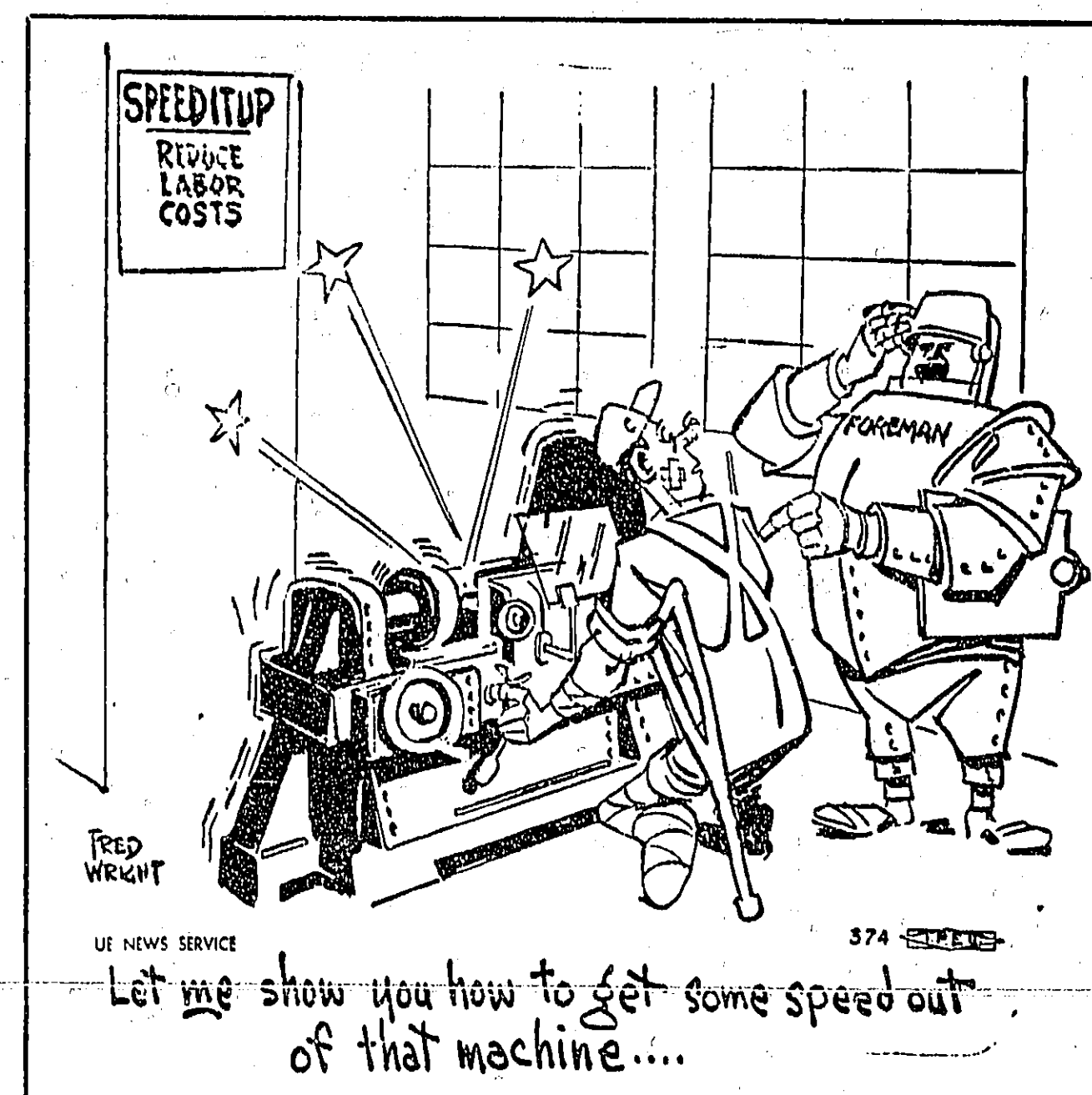
City and county housing projects for all people without discrimination.

### Civil Rights

Oppose all restriction on civil rights. Open schools and other public buildings to meetings of all lawful organizations. Repeal the anti-sound truck ordinance.

### State and National Legislation

Local governing bodies must exercise their full influence in favor of progressive legislative action in Albany and Washington — for pensions, health insurance, civil rights, full employment, taxation of the greedy instead of the needy, and the return of our domestic and foreign policy to the control of the people instead of Wall Street — in order that we may have peaceful trade with all nations of the world — and bring jobs for the working people of this area.



## GEB Recommends UE Qualify To Use Taft-Hartley Board Election Machinery

The General Executive Board of UE last week voted to recommend to the 14th UE convention that UE place itself in a position to use the election machinery of the Taft-Hartley Board.

The recommendation was made to strengthen the union's fight against attacks by employers and by enemies of rank-and-file trade unionism within the labor movement.

The statement adopted by the GEB follows:

"For more than two years the UE has refrained from using the facilities of the Taft-Hartley Board as a necessary condition for carrying on a consistent and principled fight for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act. This has not been the case with the majority of the unions of the CIO and the AFL.

Increased Attacks

"Under the Taft-Hartley Act employers have stepped up their attack against the interests and welfare of all working people. The employers have been aided in their objectives by the growing attack upon the principles and practice of democratic rank-and-file trade unionism — an attack carried on from within the labor movement as well as from without. This attack must be defeated in order to restore to the labor movement the militancy and unity needed to win final repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act.

"In view of this attack and of the failure of the 81st Congress to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act the Executive Board of UE considers that the most important task of the UE is to continue to defend and fight

for its rank-and-file democracy, unite itself against disruption from within and place itself in the best possible position of defense against attacks from without.

Recommend Filing Affidavits

"Therefore the officers and the General Executive Board believe it advisable that the UE should place itself in a position to use the election machinery of the board. The officers and the General Executive Board recommend that the 14th convention of the UE direct the general officers and such local officers as the General Executive Board may hereafter designate to file affidavits and statements as provided by Section 9 (f) (g) (h) of the Taft-Hartley Act.

"The General Executive Board cautions the membership that no protection to the union or to the membership will flow automatically from this action.

"This action, however, should make it more difficult for the enemies of rank-and-file unionism to use the facilities of the Taft-Hartley Board to injure the UE."

## Gaeth Broadcast

The weekly broadcast of Arthur Gaeth, sponsored by the national UE, is at 10 p.m. every Monday on WTKW.