

Food Center Will Be Open Next Wednesday

Next week the Local 301 Food Center at 1027 State St. will be open Wednesday, the day before Christmas, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The same schedule will be followed the next week, with the center open the day before New Year's.

Union members and their families bought more last week at the money-saving Food Center, than during any previous week. Receipts were \$2,029.54 Thursday; \$5,654.82 Friday, and \$4,032.56 Saturday, a total of \$11,716.81 for the three days.

The Food Price Committee has issued another call for volunteers, especially second shift workers, to help Wednesday morning next week and the week after. Because there's such a demand for the Food Center bargains, the committee asks that union members allow only people in their immediate households to use their 301 membership cards to purchase food.

Yesterday, for the first time, the center had crackers and cookies for sale. Other attractions were butter at 82 cents a pound, margarine at 35 cents; 10 pound bags of granulated sugar, holiday candy; coffee at 39 cents a pound; cold cuts, and a greater variety of other meat and of cheese. The center will be open today until 8 p.m. and tomorrow until 6.

Certain wholesalers have refused to sell food to the center because of pressure put on them by retailers who are their customers.

The 301 committee is looking for larger quarters for the Food Center.

Step Rate Application to Piece Prices Worked Out

Estimated piece work prices set by comparison with prices resulting from time studies will in the future be made to conform with the application of the step rate plan to timing rates.

This remaining question in the application of the step rate plan provision of the contract was settled in a New York meeting last week between Leo Jandreau and James W. Burnison. The step rate plan raised some timing rates by amounts ranging from 1/2 cent to 4 1/2 cents per hour.

Burnison earlier had agreed to comply with the contract provision, and tables affected by the changed rates are being figured to include the increase, as to new prices.

Meet a New Group of Shop Stewards



New shop stewards taking oath of office at 301 Hall. Front row, left to right, John W. Van Auken, Bldg. 76; Edella M. Blau, Bldg. 40; Daniel Monaco, Bldg. 285; Martin Stanton (reinstated by court order after the 301 membership expelled him from the union), Bldg. 69; Paul Gustafson, Bldg. 28, and Arthur Oldendorf, Bldg. 28. Rear row, Joe Grudzin, Bldg. 109; William O. Young, Bldg. 60; Harmon Cartwright, Bldg. 84; Stanley Borysewicz, Bldg. 60; Charles F. Andrews, Bldg. 28; C. R. Taylor, Bldg. 46 and W. R. Germain, Bldg. 46. George Walker, guide, administered the oath.

Union Gets Adjustment Of Inventory Grievance

At a conference in New York last week with Leo Jandreau, James Burnison agreed to pay the AER to some workers in Bldg. 285 who were told to take inventory Sept. 26 without notice. The AER is to be paid to those who were making the job rate or over.

A group under Foreman Howard was ordered at 11 a.m. Sept. 26 to stop the piece work to which they had been assigned and start taking inventory immediately. There still was piece work to be completed. Burnison said the AER would be paid because no notice was given before the inventory.

Wreath for Male

The Local 301 Executive Board sent a wreath to the funeral of Albert Male, second ward supervisor who died recently. During the strike at GE in 1946, Mr. Male was chairman of the mass meeting at the armory called by a group of small business men, to demand that GE settle with the union. Local 301 supported him in November when he was reelected supervisor. He was a Democrat, with ALP support.

10 Cent Raise

MT. VERNON, N. Y.—A new contract providing a union shop, seven paid holidays and a general wage increase of 10 cents an hour has been won by UE at the Wirgin Leans Company.

Bridgeport Local Elects National UE Supporters

A slate of officers who support the national UE leadership and program was elected by UE Local 203, at the GE plant at Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 12.

The so-called "Democratic Action" group which had controlled the local took a thorough licking. As the new president, the local elected Michael Marinaccio to succeed Michael Beresick, and Ellis Brooks as business agent to succeed Joseph Julianelle. Both Beresick and Julianelle testified against UE last summer as witnesses for the Thomas "Un-American Committee." They were leaders in expelling 26 members from the local without a trial on charges of "Communism," in violation of the UE constitution.

When the Taft-Hartley law was passed, the Bridgeport officers and board rushed into print with a pledge to cooperate with the enforcement of this anti-labor law. The General Electric Co. in a full-page advertisement praised the action of the Bridgeport officers.

In the recent Bridgeport election there were four candidates for president and three for business agent. A split developed between Beresick and Julianelle.

Veterans' Center

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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Merriest Christmas Party of All at 301 Hall



Left, Santa Claus and a friend at the Local 301 Christmas party Sunday at the union hall. Right, Darlene Brothers and Patricia Boissert, left to right, at the microphone. The girls were two of Miss Belle Baxter's dancing pupils who entertained. Over 500 children turned out for the biggest 301 party yet.

301 Presses Fight In Expulsion Case

Contrary to the impression given by a statement sent to Schenectady newspapers by John Braun, Albany attorney, Local 301 is pressing in court its right to expel three members for violating the union constitution.

Braun's misleading statement was that the union was dropping its appeal from a court order reinstating the trio. Actually as a lawyer he must have known that only a legal technicality was involved. Union attorneys withdrew a notice of appeal filed, because the same issues will come up in a Supreme Court trial of the case soon. If necessary, an appeal will be taken after that trial.

The expelled men, Frank Fiorillo, leader of the so-called Democratic Action group here; Martin Stanton and Carmine Di Girolamo, obtained a temporary order in November from Supreme Court Justice John Alexander to

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Introducing two guests at the 301 Christmas party, Leonard Porter and Joan Russell.

BACK THE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH A 100 PERCENT UNION SHOP.

Union Arranges To Aid Veterans Apply for Bonus

Local 301 has taken steps to help its members obtain their state bonus payments as easily and quickly as possible.

The union will get a full supply of application blanks as soon as they are available from the state next week. Starting Friday, Jan. 2, veterans can obtain the applications at the union hall, Erie Blvd. and Liberty St., from 1 to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. The applications can be notarized at the hall free of charge. Qualified people will be on hand to help the veterans make out the forms.

As bonus payments will be made in the order that the state receives the applications, veterans should make the necessary preparations at once. They have to know the number of their Draft Board. They also have to present photostatic copies in the actual size of their discharge or separation papers. Veterans can obtain photostatic copies free of charge by applying at the county clerk's office, main floor of the court house, 612 State St., between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to noon, Saturdays. It will take about 10 days to get the copies from the clerk's office.

To assure faster service, Local 301 has made a special arrangement with the Hayden Photo Copy establishment at 129 Railroad St. Photostatic copies will be made there within 48 hours, at 25 cents a photostat, for veterans showing their 301 cards. Most applications need only one or two photostats, but some take more. The Hayden place is open from 9 to 5:30 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

The bonus will be paid to veterans who served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or U. S. Geodetic Survey.

Drop In

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

Who Owns Stock Of Corporations?

The corporations of the country say that their stock is owned by millions of "small" investors such as widows and orphans and retired workers who depend on dividend checks for their livelihood.

In the highest income families—those with incomes of over \$7,500 a year—51 percent of the families held stocks and industry bonds. In the lowest income families—those with incomes of less than \$3,000 a year—only 4 to 6 percent of the families held stocks and bonds. (Study by Federal Reserve Board of stock holdings in early part of 1947. Federal Reserve Bulletin, August 1947, p 961).

75,000 of the wealthiest persons in the United States own one-half of all the corporate stock in the country. (Senate Committee Report, Economic Concentration and World War II, 1946).

Don't Let Them Blame Meat Prices on Wages

The wholesale price of meat rose 97 per cent from May, 1946 to Oct. 1947. The hourly wages of workers in the meat industry rose 13 per cent in the same period. And wages make up only 6 per cent of the price of meat.

The share of meat prices received by farmers dropped 9 per cent from June, 1946 to June, 1947. But profits of the four big meatpackers, Armour, Swift, Wilson and Cudahy, jumped 215 per cent from 1945 to 1947.

Call Your Steward

Members who are called in and questioned by supervision or company guards are entitled to demand that their shop steward be present. This is important to workers. Frequently the person's recollection of what happened and what he said is different from the report made by a guard official or supervisory employee. Having a shop steward present will protect the member's rights.

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Important, Veterans

The deadline for applying for reinstatement of GI Life Insurance without a physical examination is Wednesday, Dec. 31. Veterans should see the Veterans' Counsel at the court house, 612 State St.

Chamber of Commerce Would Abolish Overtime Pay

The natural follow-up to the Taft-Hartley law came the other day. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce suggested to a sub-committee of the House of Representatives Labor Committee that the Wage-Hour Law be amended to end the requirement that employers must pay time-and-a-half after forty hours a week.

The Chamber was, next to the National Association of Manufacturers, one of the principal backers of the Taft-Hartley law. Earl O. Shreve, GE vice-president, is on leave from that job and is serving as president of the Chamber of Commerce.

GE Canadian Local Wins Reinstatement

Toronto, Can. — A Board of Arbitration has ordered the reinstatement of John Watson, UE member fired last February. The decision orders GE to reinstate him as of the day of his dismissal, with full seniority rights.

The board condemned the attitude of foremen who persist in using abusive language when giving orders to employees, calling such conduct "one of the explosive factors in industrial relations." The board also said the company's machinery for handling grievances was "deplorably defective."

Overtime Hearing

UE took the lead in trying to protect the living standards of white collar workers at hearings Dec. 3 in Washington, D.C., before officials of the Wage-Hour division. The union asked that overtime pay be granted to any salaried worker making less than \$500 a month. Under present Wage-Hour regulations white collar workers getting over \$200 a month are "exempt" from overtime pay.

Rem-Rand Provokes 2 Work Stoppages

Under extreme provocation, workers at Remington-Rand plants in Iliion and Tonawanda engaged in work stoppages this week.

About 2,000 workers at plants 2 and 3, Iliion, stopped work Tuesday in protest against the company sending the union president home for three days on a phony charge of "absenteeism." Michael O'Brien, president of UE Local 315, was engaged in union business. When this week's issue of EU News went to press Tuesday the stoppage was still in effect.

Over 700 workers were involved in a half-hour stoppage Monday at Tonawanda over an effort of the company to make a worker sign a yellow-dog slip repudiating the union. Management said he would have to sign this slip before a grievance would be considered about a warning notice handed to him.

Throughout the Rem-Rand plants, the workers are determined to defend their UE contracts against the company.

Quoting President Roosevelt On Labor's Political Action

Remember what President Franklin D. Roosevelt said in 1944 at the Teamsters Union dinner about politicians who fear political action on the part of labor?

"Even those candidates who burst out in election-year affection for social legislation and for labor in general, still think you ought to be good boys and stay out of politics. And above all, they hate to see any working man or woman contribute a dollar bill to any wicked political party. Of course, it is all right for large financiers and industrialists and monopolists to contribute tens of thousands of dollars!"

President Andrew Peterson of Local 301 used the quotation in a recent radio broadcast.

Papers Aren't Interested In This Kind of Testimony

Charles H. Gutheinz, a Scranton meat dealer, told some Congressional price investigators recently that when the public started buying cheaper cuts of meat the packers evened things up by boosting the price of the cheaper cuts.

"That has been the practice as long as I have been in business," he said.

This piece of information was given only a small paragraph in the New York Herald Tribune. Most papers didn't even mention it.

Time for Refreshments at Union Party

So many children turned up for the annual Local 301 Christmas party Sunday at the union hall that the Activities Committee had to send out for more food. Here are a few of the reasons why!



New Year Thoughts

Business has a bright future in 1948, according to President Charles E. Wilson of GE. He admits that 1947 has been a bumper year and that prospects are even better for the New Year.

Higher production is the secret of prosperity, according to the Wilson formula. He says industry is "having no trouble having the market absorb all it can put out."

But President Truman's very conservative council of economic advisors recently warned against the danger of depression following inflation.

The council said prices and profits will have to drop in certain industries, and that a speedup in production and a longer work week are not cure-alls. The council called for "much higher consumption in all the lower and middle ranks." It pointed to "gross unbalances" in the wage structure.

UE members hope that Mr. Wilson will still be in his cheerful frame of mind when contract negotiations start. For a company with GE's 1947 record and 1948 prospects, the union's proposals should be easy to meet.

The union seeks a wage increase to offset the increased cost-of-living. It wants liberalized pensions, sick leave, better holiday provisions and other reasonable improvements.

Cab Drivers Win Raise in Wages

After a two-day work stoppage Saturday and Sunday, the 24 cab drivers of the Brown Taxi Co. won wage and hour improvements for their 1948 contract. They are members of Local 159, Transport Workers Union.

Lewis A. Benedict, union president, said the agreement reduces the work day from 12 to 10 hours, raises the drivers' share of total fares from 35 to 40 per cent and increases the weekly guarantee from \$86 to \$90.

Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani of 301 and Robert Northrop, secretary-treasurer of the Capital District CIO Council, assisted in negotiations.

UE Broadcast

The Arthur Goeth broadcast, sponsored by the national UE, is at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday over WSNY, WROW and WBCA (FM).

301 Fights Expulsion Case

(Continued from Page 1)

force the union to reinstate them and let them run for office.

Now there will be a hearing on the matter of making the court order permanent.

All three men were soundly beaten in the Local 301 election this month.

Holiday Schedule For Food Center

The schedule will be the same next week as this week at the Local 301 Food Center, 1027 State St. It will be open Wednesday, the day before New Year's Day, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; next Friday, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The following week there will be the usual Thursday, Friday, Saturday set-up.

Cooked hams and a large variety of fresh vegetables and fruit will be available today, tomorrow and next week.

The center had a record-breaking three days last week. Union members and their families spent \$2,543.04 Thursday; \$5,738.95 Friday and \$3,801.37 Saturday, a total of \$12,083.36 for the three days.

Occasionally a member reports that he found a certain food selling at a Scheenectady store for as little, or even less, than at the union Food Center.

"Stores sometimes undersell us on an item or two," James Cognetta, chairman of the 301 Food Price Committee said.

"But the saving made on one item is offset by higher prices on the rest."

The union Food Center handles only articles which the members can buy at a substantial saving, he pointed out. This is one of the principles on which the committee has operated the Food Center. The other principles are:

The Center shall be no cost to the union. Union funds were advanced to establish it, but all costs, including lost time, overhead and wages have to come out of the receipts. No profit shall be made from the sale of food or other articles. The stock is marked up to cover the actual price paid and expenses. The books show about a \$100 balance one way or the other from time to time, because it's impossible to estimate all prices accurately in advance.

The Food Center is a group buying project, not a store.

Lay-off Report Denied

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, this week denied reports that there were to be big lay-offs after Jan. 1. The union office checked with him after rumors had been circulated repeatedly that such lay-offs would take place. Stevens said that the lay-off or transfer of about 100 workers in the Industrial Control Division was being completed, and that no general lay-offs were planned now.

NO MORE FREE RIDERS!!!!

More Stewards Take Oath of Office



George Walker, 301 guide, swears in a new group of shop stewards at the union hall. Front row, left to right, Milton Danko, Bldg. 69; Joseph Aschenback, Bldg. 69; James Dixon, Bldg. 16; John Feldman, Bldg. 42; Carmine J. Di Girolamo, Bldg. 69, reinstated by court order after expulsion by the membership of 301; and Frank Baron, Bldg. 69. Second row, Lawrence Fagnan, Bldg. 60; Lester P. Grethen, Bldg. 42; Joseph F. Mitz, Bldg. 73; Michael Riggi, Bldg. 79; August Ciotoli, Bldg. 40; Louis J. Feulner, Bldg. 105, and Albert Dorries, Bldg. 73A.

Protect Your Compensation Rights by Reporting Injuries Immediately, Union Attorneys Advise

Compensation for injuries sustained at work is not charity. It is something to which you are entitled under the law. But every year many workers fail to collect payments because they didn't file proper claims, or filed them too late, or didn't bother to report an accident or illness at all.

Leon Novak, Local 301 attorney, and Marshall Perlin, UE District 3 attorney, who handle compensation cases of 301 members free of charge, advise members to protect their compensation rights as follows:

Get in touch with the union as soon after the accident as possible. The union will help you file your claim immediately as a free service.

Give immediate notice to your foreman or supervisor, if you suffer any injury while at work. If such notice is delayed more than 30 days you may lose your rights to compensation.

Don't Overlook Minor Injuries

Consult the union even about minor pains or injuries which arise while you are at work. Do this within 30 days. You may have the basis for a compensation claim because minor injuries can develop into something serious.

If you have failed to report an injury on time, consult the union for advice. Under certain circumstances it may still be possible to file a claim.

The union lawyers point out that after emergency treatment at the plant a worker has the right to receive further treatment from his own doctor. You don't have to go to a GE doctor for such treatment.

You don't have to pay medical fees to

your doctor. Your doctor will send his reports to the Workmen's Compensation Board.

Compensation Hearings

GE must pay your compensation claim within 18 days or advise the board that a hearing will be necessary. Such a hearing is held before a state referee who rules on the claim. At this hearing you may be represented by an attorney. (This service also is provided free of charge by your union).

If you and your lawyer don't agree with the referee's ruling you may apply within 20 days for a review by a board panel of three members. If such a review is granted, the panel will reconsider the case and may make a new decision. If necessary, appeals may be taken to higher courts.

Here's Another Reminder About Holiday Schedule

The work schedule will be the same the day before Jan. 1 as it was the day before Christmas. First shift, regular hours; second shift, quit at 8 p.m.; third shift, will not work.

All shifts will work their regular schedule the day following the holiday, but the third shift will report at their regular starting time on the holiday night.