

UE BANKRUPTCY EXPOSED BY LIE ABOUT SENIORITY

For the past three weeks UE's National Office boys have been running frantically about telling anyone who would listen to them that, "In IUE-CIO you will lose your Seniority." That was the only argument UE had that came close to being a Trade Union issue. The only other things it has been able to talk about are smears and mud-slinging stories directed at the leaders of Local 301. But the seniority lie is just as unfounded as the smear-attacks on the leadership of our Local. There is no truth to either of them.

Proof of this is provided by a simple examination of IUE-CIO Local Supplements with GE plants throughout the country. These supplements (reproduced here and on the back of this page) show that where IUE-CIO Locals negotiated supplements with GE and wanted plant-wide Seniority, they made it a part of their Contract guarantees.

That is true in such important GE Locals as Holyoke, Mass. . . Philadelphia, Pa. . . Tell City, Indiana . . . Cleveland, Ohio . . . Fitchburg, Mass. . . Warren, Ohio . . . and other Locals throughout the country.

And in every case these Locals saw to it that "Total length of continuous service is considered the major factor."

The IUE-CIO National Contract with GE provides for Local Supplements on Seniority to govern the lay-off and rehiring procedure. The supplements then im-

plement that National Contract allowance.

The way UE has rushed to spread these lies in order to scare GE workers proves just how bankrupt that outfit is. If it had truth on its side . . . if it had the majority of GE workers on its side . . . if it had any Trade Union arguments whatsoever . . . it would not have to drum up

these dishonest accusations. Only a bankrupt organization has to lie.

Those lies have no relation whatsoever to the issue. The issue is simply how to unite GE workers in order to do a real job in negotiations this summer.

That is the issue, because that is what is going to decide whether Schenectady

GE workers win a substantial wage increase and other important Contract improvements this year . . . OR . . . whether they continue the record of no major gains that has marked UE's national negotiations for the entire past five years.

Important gains can be won if Local 301 is united with 78,000 other GE workers in IUE-CIO plants in Lynn . . . Pittsfield . . . Holyoke . . . Fitchburg . . . Fort Wayne . . . Cleveland . . . Philadelphia . . . Louisville . . . Anniston . . . Linton . . . Tell City . . . New Kensington . . . and more than 40 other locations throughout the country.

If UE could do something to unite GE workers it would be able to argue the issue on a Trade Union basis; it would not have to lie and throw mud at the respected leaders of Local 301.

These lies and smears prove just how bankrupt UE is.



Sample clause in IUE-CIO Local Supplement providing plant-wide seniority.

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE CIO

Vol. 1, No. 2

The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y.

April 9, 1954

VOTE BY MAY 14!

We should have our election May 14 — five weeks from today. That shapes up as the most likely date, because . . .

1. The petitioning is out of the way.
2. The Informal Conference is over.
3. The formal hearings are over.
4. The deadline has been set for final appeals.

Now the only thing that remains is for the NLRB in Washington to hand down its order for an election. That should be done within a week after April 17, the final date for filing briefs.

Between now and the 17th the Board should complete its study of the entire record of testimony.

That record undeniably established the fact that a "schism" exists—that is,

that GE workers are demanding a change in their Union affiliation. Once the Board is satisfied as to that, it will then hand down its election order.

Such orders provide that an election "be held within 30 days." It can either be one week, two weeks or three or four weeks after the order is issued that the election is held. It is usually three weeks.

Three weeks after the 24th would put Election Day as May 14.

This gives UE more than enough time to present its case. UE succeeded in getting that much time simply by dragging out the Court House Hearings over a period of two weeks and then asking additional time for extra briefs.

This, too, was granted.

Now there need be no further delay.

An election on May 14 will give every party plenty of time to present its case. Any delay by UE after that time will only show just how low that outfit has stooped to do the company's dirty work.

UE is responsible for the delay and the company is taking full advantage of it. But UE tries to twist this fact and blame IUE-CIO Local 301 for it.

However, people can see through this shoddy trick.

And when this thing is over and the local people are still on the job doing the work and handling the grievances (And the outsiders have gone back to Rome and Boston and Chicago and California) we are going to see to it that the company makes corrections for the advantages it took of GE workers during this UE stall.

F-L-O-P Goes UE's Phony Legal Stunts

During the past week the trickery and phony legal gimmicks of the National UE were fully exposed.

All their "injunctions" . . . "court orders" . . . "restrainers" . . . "citations" . . . "directives" . . . and other legalistic hogwash have been either tossed out by the Courts or transferred to the area where the people were actually involved.

The "restraining order" against use of Local 301 by IUE-CIO was vacated last Friday. The "contempt" case against the Officers was also exposed as a phony when the New York judge refused to let wool be pulled over his eyes by Scribner.

Erie GE Moves To Join IUE-CIO

GE workers in Erie have followed the lead of Local 301 and are moving to join IUE-CIO.

Following a rank-and-file rebellion against the dead-

end-street leadership of UE, Erie GE workers filed their petition for an NLRB election in Pittsburgh yesterday. The petition was accompanied by signed membership cards showing that Erie workers want to get out of the weak, incompetent UE and unite with the vast majority of GE workers in IUE-CIO.

Erie workers agree that UE is through in GE. It is practically through in the entire electrical industry.

Because UE has no strength, it cannot do a job for its members. As that was the main reason for Local 301 quitting UE, it was also the main reason for the Erie workers deciding to get out of UE and into IUE-CIO.

More than 400,000 workers have quit UE and joined IUE-CIO in the past four years.

More than 30,000 workers have done that in the past six weeks. They are in GE plants in Schenectady, New York City, Newark and Bloomfield, N. J.; Tung-Sol Electric in Hoboken, N. J.; Monroe Calculator in Orange, N. J.; Wilcolator in Elizabeth, N. J.; and Vickers in Detroit, Mich.



Mike Jimmer, UE outsider from Rome, who is running around Schenectady asking for a chance to run Local 301. See what his own local thinks of him. Story on Page 2.

T-V TONIGHT

Local 301 leaders will continue their series of T-V shows tonight on the issues involved in the election. Be sure to see this show for the latest developments throughout the plant.

Time . . . 11:15 p.m.
WRGB . . . Channel 6

Jiminez Denounced By Own Local

Members of UE Local 331, General Cable, at Rome, N. Y., are in rebellion against UE and the mis-leadership of Mike Jiminez, UE's ace strong-arm boy who is now in Schenectady.

Last week a petition was circulated through the plant condemning Jiminez. The petition, signed by hundreds of General Cable workers, states that . . .

"Jiminez has no business in Schenectady trying to tell people how to run their Local. He can't even take care of his own Local here in Rome, let alone manage a big Local like 301. Jiminez is mainly responsible for the wrecked contract, the messed-up seniority and the tragic state of affairs in Local 331 in general. We condemn Jiminez for spending his time in Schenectady trying to bust up a Local that has done a good job for its members."

The petition was circulated by people in the shop after they read a Schenectady paper in which Jiminez was making statements aimed at destroying the solidarity of Local 301.

People in Rome have strong feelings about Jiminez. They don't like the way he operates. But he has managed to scare some of them with his rough-house tactics.

General Cable workers are particularly disgusted with the futile 26-week strike Jiminez took them out on last year. They not only stayed out for 26 weeks, they also went back to work for less than what they were offered before Jiminez started his strike.

At a meeting of General Cable workers last Saturday, a resolution blasting Jiminez was unanimously adopted. That resolution stated in part:

"We employees of General Cable, Rome, N. Y., have seen our conditions grow worse, our seniority wrecked, and our Union weakened to the point where it is unbearable. . . . The person primarily responsible for our worsening conditions is Mike Jiminez, who took us out on a 26-week strike that failed

and then made us go back to work for less than we were offered before we walked out. . . .

"We therefore condemn Jiminez for his efforts in Schenectady aimed at Union-busting and disruption."

Conditions are so bad in General Cable now that less than half the people in the plant belong to the Union. For the past year, Local 331 has been able to get by only because of a subsidy from District 3, most of which was from 301.

Now that the subsidy has been cut off, Local 331 is on the rocks. It is about to be run out of its Local Hall because it can't pay the rent. Local leaders have had to sell "raffle tickets" in order to pay the rent, Arbitration costs and other expenses.

Seniority is so-messed up that workers in more than 80 job classifications have practically no seniority at all.

The contract is completely wrecked.

And Jiminez, who is responsible, is now trying to tell Local 301 members that they should let him run their Union!

What Rome Workers Think of 'Mike'

(Printed below are statements made by some General Cable workers denouncing Jiminez. Dozens of similar statements were made, but the press of other news would not permit use of more of them in this edition of the Local 301 News.)

"Jiminez ought to keep out of Local 301's affairs. The only thing he could do would be to wreck the Union and the Contract like he did in Rome. And that shouldn't happen to anyone! Most of our trouble in Rome was the result of the mis-leadership of Jiminez. He was always double-crossing us, telling us one thing and doing another. Don't fall for his baloney."



John Montana

"Jiminez can't even take care of Local 331. How could he ever hope to be able to take care of such a big local as Schenectady GE? Jiminez is the one who led us out on strike for 26 weeks. He did the negotiating. When we went back we actually had less than what we were offered before we walked out on the strike. Half of our own plant has practically no seniority protection."



Donald Darling

"The main reason we have only about 40% in the Union is Jiminez. He has disgusted so many people with his lies and misleadership that people want no part of the Union. He has made such a mess of seniority here at General Cable that one never knows where he stands. You can't be sure whether you have Seniority or not. Is that what Jiminez is trying to repeat in Schenectady?"



Angelo Fusco

"Our local is in such bad shape we can't even pay the rent on our Hall. I hear that already we have received word we'll be thrown out. When it comes to such a state that Local Officers have to go around selling 'Raffle tickets' in order to pay the cost of Arbitration cases, that's pretty bad. Jiminez has no business in Schenectady. No good can come of his presence there."



Steve Hojnacki



The richly-furnished home of Mike Jiminez, UE Organizer, atop Sly (?) Hill, overlooking Rome.

Another GE Plant Votes For IUE-CIO

IUE-CIO's crusade to organize all GE workers in one Union continued during the past week as employees of another GE shop voted unanimously to be represented by IUE-CIO.

The NLRB election held at Cleveland GE warehouse on April 2 saw GE workers cast ballots 100% in favor of IUE-CIO. The shop had been unorganized for 12 years. UE had never succeeded in unionizing the people, despite the fact that it once represented many GE workers in Cleveland.

The Cleveland victory is a small but nevertheless important landmark along IUE-CIO's trail that has seen more than 10,000 new GE workers come into our Union during the past year. The most important of these plants were attempts by GE to run-away from unionized rates and conditions. The plants are in Louisville, Ky.; Anniston, Ala.; Linton, Ind.; Cambridge, Mass.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Auburn, N. Y.; Montreal, Que.

In addition to those plants previously unorganized, GE

How NOT To Run A Union

UE is awfully hard up. About the only way it was able to get any officers was by drawing names out of a hat. Or just about that.

This proved to be the case on Wednesday when Mark Burnham announced in the Union-Star that he had been "appointed" a Trustee of the paper local "without my knowledge or consent."

First Burnham had been named Sergeant-at-arms. He objected to this and told the outsiders he didn't want any part of their outfit. But UE had to have somebody so they used Burnham's name anyway. As a result he had to repudiate UE publicly to get it off his neck.

This is one more example of just how bankrupt an outfit UE is.

PS: They still haven't found anybody to serve as Business Agent or Chief Shop Steward, the two most important jobs in the Union.

Women Leaders Pledge Fighting Future In CIO

At a meeting at Union Headquarters last Wednesday night, Local 301 women leaders laid plans for continuing improvements for GE women workers.

More than a hundred women leaders from the plant participated in the meeting — the largest and most successful woman's meeting in recent Local 301 history.

The women pledged continued Local 301 leadership in the fight for constant ad-

stones in this fight were:

1. The first plant survey — Aug. 1943—that launched the fight to end discrimination against women.
2. The second plant survey— Dec. of 1944. Local 301 again led the battle and it ended in victory with an order from the War Labor Board to GE instructing the company to end discrimination against women.
3. The 1946 strike. Many women participated actively in the strike. It resulted in company agreements to further reduce inequities.
4. The women's rally at the Subway gate, May 7, 1952.
5. The 1953 survey of women's rates. GE finally gave in to the continuing pressure of Local 301: The result was that more than 1,300 women received upward adjustments, some as high as 22 cents an hour.



Ethel Furman

vancement of gains for women workers under the new banner of IUE-CIO.

To lead the fight the women elected Ethel Furman, a GE worker with more than 13 years service, as Women's Executive Board Member at Large. Sister Furman who has four years' experience as a Shop Steward, works in Building 10-C, A & O.

In recounting the militant leadership of Local 301 in the bitter fight against GE to put women's rates on a par with men, the women agreed that the most important mile-

He Represents Nobody

"Treasurer" of UE's paper local is Coleman O'Neil, second shift, Turbine.

O'Neil doesn't even represent his own paint gang, let alone any broader group. This was proved last week when the paint gang on O'Neil's job unanimously signed a petition exposing him. The petition stated:

"Any statements Coleman O'Neil makes in papers distributed from 201 1/2 Broadway are his own and he is speaking for himself and not for our painters' group."

301 On the Job

Bldg. 107: B. Dare in Steward J. Christopher's group is performing work of Special Labor. Union demands proper reclassification and increase in rate.

Bldg. 16: D. Jutton in Steward G. Fagal's section has not received proper payment for work done on S.O. 4366-3135A, drwg. 8605771-1. Union demands increase in price to cover work performed.

Bldg. 269: F. Rodgers in Steward B. Martin's group is performing work of "Test-characteristic - diversified". Union demands that she be paid job rate.

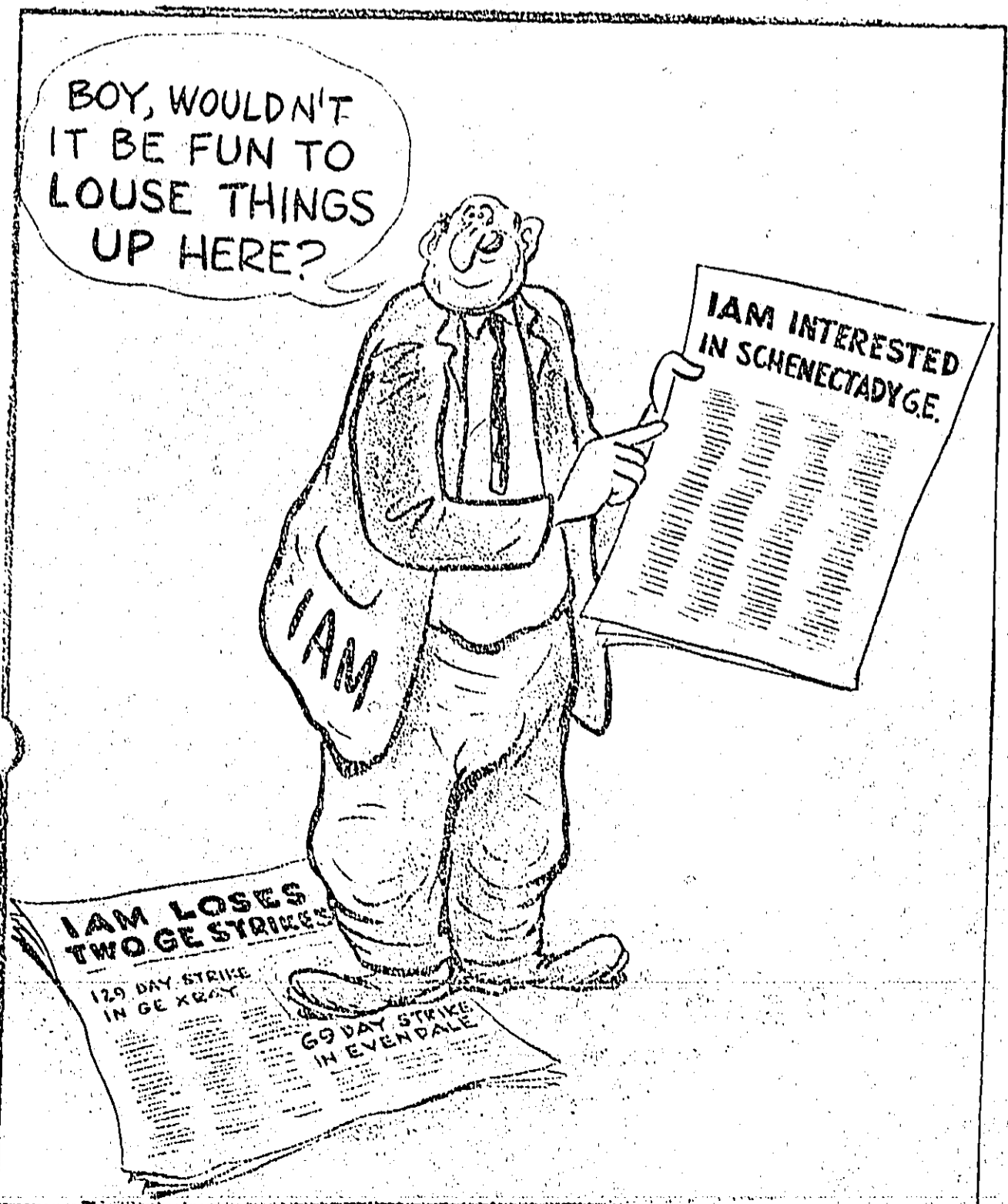
Bldg. 66: Foreman Houck

is attempting to violate the contract by refusing to allow authorized Steward P. Donato to be present when W. Crossley is called in to Gen. Foreman's office to discuss his work. Union demands management correct this situation.

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301,
REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY
GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee

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Ass't Recording Secretary.....Rudy Rissland
Chief Shop Steward.....William Kostriani
Business Agent.....Leo Landreau
301 LIBERTY ST. SCHENECTADY 5, N. Y.



How National UE Permitted Seniority Sellout That Resulted in Harm to a Member of 301

The National Office boys brag about what they say UE has accomplished on Seniority.

But the truth is that they have accomplished nothing. They are only trying to take credit for what the members of Local 301 have won.

Local 301 did an outstanding job of winning and enforcing good Seniority rules over the years. This was concluded by our Local Supplement, which UE had to admit was the best in its entire chain.

The Supplement is so good that it has meant hundreds of additional benefits to the members of Local 301 that members of other UE locals never got.

The National Contract, on the other hand, has been so weak that it has hurt all GE workers represented by UE.

One Local 301 member learned this the hard way.

He was Fred Allen of 1817 Central Ave., Albany. Brother Allen was told by his doctor he must leave this climate. He was told that California would be ideal for him.

Because Brother Allen knew he had a good deal in Schenectady, he figured he could get just as good a deal in a California GE shop. So he picked out the San Jose plant of GE, a UE shop.

He applied for a job at the San Jose plant, figuring he would be able to keep all his Seniority accumulated in 301, plus pension rights, service credits and all other benefits.

He wrote to the GE plant manager at San Jose on July 18 of last year. A week later came the reply.

Brother Allen was shocked by what he learned. He found out that he could not carry

WANTED

Two men to serve in important posts (Chief Steward and Business Agent). Easy jobs. No experience necessary. Apply Mr. Matles or Mr. Jiminez, 201 1/2 Broadway.

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America

ELEVEN EAST FIFTY-FIRST STREET NEW YORK 22, N. Y. PLAZA 3-1960

ALBERT J. FITZGERALD
General President

JULIUS EMSPAK
General Secretary Treasurer

JAMES J. MATLES
Director of Organization

October 1, 1953

Fred T. Sheehan
Asst. to Business Agent
UE Local 301
301 Liberty Street
Schenectady 5, N. Y.

Dear Brother Sheehan:

In regard to your letter of September 30, 1953, it is true that a number of small locals have arrangements where the seniority accumulated outside of their own shop would not count in case of lay-offs; only the service accumulated in the plant proper. This may vary in the several plants. I have heard of arrangements where this holds true for a period of a year and then the complete company service is taken into account for all purposes.

This is especially true on the west coast, where during the years between 1948 and 1950 there seemed to be a large influx of people from the east coast into California and most of the California Locals set up these barriers for the protection of their own employees.

The National Union has no agreement with the National Company of any kind concerning the above situation. The only agreement the National Union has is contained in the Agreement between UE and GE.

I hope this answers your question.

Fraternally yours,

Joseph Turkowski
JOSEPH TURKOWSKI,
International Representative

JT:JF
ftul

his Seniority Rights with him.

In this letter to Brother Allen, the plant manager stated:

"We are unable to grant you full Seniority rights because of an arrangement with the Union, and in case of lay-off you would be considered the same as a new employee."

Immediately Local 301 took this up with the UE National Office in New York to see if these much-ballyhooed experts on everything could obtain a simple seniority transfer for this member, or if they had let expediency be the sub-

stitute for principle in regard to Local seniority rights.

Back came the reply from Joe Turkowski, UE representative assigned to the GE Conference Board.

"It is true," he wrote, that the UE National Office could do nothing for Brother Allen. (See letter above.)

That is the difference between Seniority Local 301-style and Seniority as applied by the boys from New York.

PS: Joe Turkowski is one of the office boys from New York now running around Schenectady telling people they should let him handle their seniority.



U. E. BUYS SHOP STEWARDS

THAT IS WHAT HAPPENED TO
SAM BARBER AT CAP II!

Sam has been going to 201 1/2 Broadway and as a result of making deals with the Out-of-Town Organizers, he is being paid for his time.

The National U.E. sold Sam a bill of goods --- that U.E. will bring more work to CAP.

They did not show Sam that the G.E. plant in Erie, Pa., U.E. Local 506, laid off 50% of the workers because the refrigerator work was transferred to Louisville, Ky.

They did not let Sam know that the U.E. lost the NLRB election in Louisville and it is now represented by IUE-CIO.

Sam Barber did not explain the undemocratic procedures carried on by the New York National Officers for the past 4 weeks.

Ask Sam how he can justify the following to the local Schenectady G.E. workers:

1. Sent telegram from N.Y. firing local officers who were elected by members.
2. Had a N.Y. Judge grant an injunction against the local Union in an attempt to confiscate our local treasury and take over our property.
3. They appoint temporary officers without consideration of membership.
4. They notified the G.E. not to recognize the elected officers, Executive Board members and stewards in order to stop the settlement of grievances.

Sam Barber did not explain the issues to the CAP workers --- THEY ARE VERY SIMPLE:

THE SCHENECTADY G.E. WORKERS WANT TO UNITE WITH THE MAJORITY OF THE G.E. WORKERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. OUR UNITED STRENGTH WILL BE 100,000 AFTER THIS N.L.R.B. ELECTION.

THE NATIONAL NEW YORK OFFICERS ARE TRYING TO STOP THIS UNITY BECAUSE IT MEANS A LOSS OF \$200,000 A YEAR IN PER CAPITA TAX.