

# LOCAL 301 NEWS

## I U F E - A F L - C I O

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### NEW YORK STATE CUT SHORT ON DEFENSE CONTRACTS

In a speech to the delegates attending the Union Label Convention, held in Jamestown, Monday, May 8, 1961, Harold C. Hanover, President of the State AFL-CIO, pointed out that 7½% of the work force in New York State were unemployed.

President Hanover claimed there are 14 areas in N.Y. State where high unemployment has been in effect for months and the immediate outlook is not good. He called on the members of Organized Labor to write their Senators and Congressman to demand our share of Federal Government procurements and contracts for New York State.

### BORING MILL OPERATOR GETS BACK PAY

As a result of a formal grievance filed, the Company will make retroactive payment of approximately \$300.00 to a Boring Mill Operator in Bldg. 273.

The Company recently changed the methods on a job which reduced the prices, thereby causing loss of earnings to the operator. He complained about this situation to his supervisor and received no satisfaction.

The Shop Steward initiated a formal grievance protesting the excess reduction in prices. The Company answered by saying that the prices were adequate; therefore, no correction or adjustment would be made.

The case was argued at the 2nd level with Company Union Relations representatives. Many meetings were held at this stage of the procedure. Finally the Union representatives were successful in convincing the Company to take time studies and method checks. As a result, some methods and time elements were found to be incorrect which substantiated the Union's original contention.

Adjustments were subsequently made to correct the inaccuracies. Prices were established that will allow the operator to maintain his earnings.

The Union negotiators were: Alex (Dash) Daszewski, Vice-Pres. Bill Kelly and Coordinator Ralph Vitallo.

He went on to point out that in 1960, the people and corporations in New York State paid a total of 17.3 billion in taxes to the Federal Government. He said the total taxes were seven times the 2.4 billion in Federal defense contracts awarded to firms in N.Y. State.

On the other hand, said Hanover, the State of California paid into the Federal Treasury less than 8 billion in taxes but received more than 4.8 billion in defense contracts. In other words, while New York paid more than twice the taxes that were paid by California, New York received only half as much of the available defense work, 2.4 billion as against 4.8 billion.

Hanover said that according to the latest report on unemployment in New York State, in the Schenectady-Albany-Troy Area, 7 out of 100 are idle. In Buffalo, 11 out of every 100 workers are idle; in Syracuse, 8.2% of the work force is unemployed; Utica-Rome Area, 9.7% unemployed. Hanover stated that there are 14 of such areas in our State.

### PRESIDENT SHAMBO RECUPERATING

Our President, John Shambo, is at home convalescing after a minor operation which was performed in the Ellis Hospital last week.

John received many well-wishers during his stay in the hospital.

Reports are that he is coming along very nicely and is expected to be back to work next week.

UNION CASE IN FOUNDRY  
RESULTS IN RAISING RATE

Recently Shop Steward Salerno, realizing that the welding jobs held by two of the men in his group required special skills, decided to see if something could be done about getting the rate raised.

Upon checking with Union Headquarters as to what the job description included, it became evident that these men were doing welding requiring more skill than the R-20 rate which they were currently receiving. At this point, Salerno filed a first step grievance requesting an R-21 rate be paid. The foreman refused to raise the rate, saying that these workers were being paid properly.

At a second step meeting, Board Member Mastriani, Recording Secretary Schaffer, Asst. Bus. Agent Townsend and Shop Steward Salerno presented new evidence to the Company negotiators proving their contention that the job was worth more money. Management stated that they would take this evidence under advisement and let us know their decision in the near future.

A short time later Union Headquarters was advised that the rate would be raised to R-21 immediately. In addition to this, they agreed to make up a new job description more accurately describing the duties of the job.

Another point about this case that makes us feel real happy is the fact that the two union members involved have long service.

OLD AGE BENEFITS SUPPORTED  
BY COUNCIL

At the monthly meeting of the Schenectady Area AFL-CIO Council, support for the Anderson-King Bill was endorsed unanimously by the delegates.

This Bill provides health benefits for the aged through the Social Security Retirement System. The benefits will cover hospital costs, nursing services, home health services, and out-patient services, such as X-ray, laboratory, etc.

The cost of this program will be financed by a small increase in the Social Security Taxes, estimated at 20¢ a week.

The Council called upon the rank and file members of Organized Labor to write their Congressman and Senators, urging them to support this legislation.

OFFICE STAFF COMPILING  
JOB SURVEY DATA

The "Job Survey" forms are presently coming into the Union Office in a steady flow.

Members who have been downgraded and desire to return to a previously held higher rated job, when such openings occur, should fill out one of these forms.

It is very important that this be done as soon as possible so that the Local 301 office staff can record and file the data immediately.

All Shop Stewards have them.

VACATION GIVEAWAY

The Activities Committee feels that the Giveaway Program has always been popular among Local 301 members, and the early returns of sold books of tickets indicate that the program will be successful again this year.

The committee wishes to remind Union members that there are limited tickets available, so get in on this possible vacation "windfall" right away.

The tickets have been in the shop since Monday of this week and returns started to come into the Union Office Tuesday. Remember, all ticket stubs must be returned to the Union Office not later than Friday, June 16th.

The Grand Prize and 2nd and 3rd prizes are as follows:

- 1st Prize - Cruise to Bermuda or \$500.00
- 2nd Prize - Two weeks vacation for family or \$250.00
- 3rd Prize - One week's vacation for family or \$150.00.

FINAL REMINDER

The Scholarship Fund Drive is nearly completed. The deadline for filing applications is Friday, May 26, 1961. It is suggested that if any member has an application to turn in, he do so immediately.

The Scholarship Committee has arranged with the American College Fund Plan to purchase a \$1,000 Series "C" Debenture.

This will enable the student to borrow through the ACF Central Financial Aid Fund up to a maximum of \$6,250.00, if he so desires.