

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

December 4, 1947

Electrical Union News

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

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

December 12, 1947

Vol. 5 — No. 47



Andrew Peterson, above, elected for the third time as president of Local 301, and William Mastriani, right, reelected chief shop

steward.



above, will start his twelfth term as business agent in January. At left: William G. Hodges, reelected vice-president.

Wallace to Address 301 Stewards Today

Henry A. Wallace, former vice-president of the United States and principal spokesman today for the policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt, will speak to Local 301 shop stewards from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. today (Friday) at the union hall. While the meeting is primarily for stewards, any member of the union who can come without loss of time will be welcome. Other Schenectady CIO unions have been invited and are asking their stewards to attend.

Mr. Wallace will speak at 8:30 tonight at Odd Fellows Hall, 46 Beaver St., Albany, under the sponsorship of the Progressive Citizens of America.

SEE YOUR SHOP IS 100% UE

Reelected Peterson and Jandreau Winners; 301 Reelects 8 Other Officers

reelected Andrew Peterson president and Leo Jandreau business agent tion Dec. 4 and 5 at 301 hall. For the first time in the union's history the members used voting machines.

All other 301 officers also were reelected, except two who were not candidates. Candidates running with the present officers were also elected by large margins. Of the candidates supported by the third term, polled 2,164 votes to 974 for

so-called "Democratic Action" group, Frank Fiorillo, their main spokesman, ran low. Fiorillo, Carmine Di Girolamo and Martin Stanton, expelled from Local 301, obtained a Supreme Court order requiring the union to let them run for

Several candidates supported by the so-called "Democratic Action" group disclaimed any connection with the group.

30 Hours of Voting

Voting took place "around-the-clock" for 30 hours, from noon Dec. 4 to 6 p.m. Dec. 5 under supervision of the Election Committee elected at the 301 membership meeting in November. Frank Emspak was chairman of the Election Committee and Frank Kriss, secretary. Charles W. Eckel, county election commissioner, inspected the machines before the polls opened and sealed them at the end. Two of his custodians were present during the voting. (See Mr. Eckel's statement on page 3.)

President Peterson, elected for his

Jandreau Runs High Jandreau topped all candidates for any office with 2,475 votes. Running for his twelfth term, he was unopposed on the

William T. Wilkinson.

ballot, but Anthony Perrone received 65 write-in votes for business agent. Perrone also received three write-ins for president, four for trustee, three for guide and one for sergeant-at-arms. Other results were: for vice-president, William G. Hodges, 2,208; Felix Pel-

chat, 850; recording secretary, Helen Quirini, 2,141; Fiorillo, 703, and Joseph Krone, 246; assistant recording secretary, Alfred Pelrah, 1,875, Marie Sweeney, 1,127; treasurer, Marshall White, 2,092, Peter Sorensen, 921; chief shop steward, William Mastriani, 1,954, Leland Bellinger, 1,111; trustees, Edmund Tanski, 1,963, Albert E. Davis, 1,946, William Downs, 1,775, C. E. Groesbeck, 990 and DiGirolamo, 733; sergeant-atarms, Harmon Cartwright, 1,921, Stanton, 890; and guide, George Walker,

Christmas Party

The Christmas party for children of Local 301 members will be from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 21 at the union hall. There will be a Christmas tree, Santa Claus, gifts of candy and fruit and refreshments (ice cream, cookies and soda).

301 Broadcast

Don't miss the weekly radio program of Local 301. It's at 7:30 p.m. every Monday over WSNY.

Membership Meeting

The regular membership meeting of Local 301 will at at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the union hall, Liberty St. and Eric Blvd.

301 Submits Ideas On 1948 Contract

The Stewards' Council Dec. 2 approved recommendations of the Executive Board for improvements in the GE contract and added several proposals of its own. Altogether, Local 301 has sent a total of 31 suggestions to the GE Conference Board of UE for inclusion in the 1948 bargaining program.

These proposals call for: a wage increase to offset the cost-of-living increase; liberalized pension payable at age of 50; pay increase to cover loss of "profit-sharing"; 14 days sick leave with pay; improved seniority clause; company to close for last two hours of work schedule on Election Day or make Election Day a paid holiday.

Improved holiday clause; improved grievance machinery, guaranteed 8 hour pay per day for all shifts; pay adjustments for continuous process operators, tightening of arbitration clause; improvements in computing length of service; higher take-out wage for increased production resulting from change of tools and equipment.

Liberalized hospitalization and insurance plans; liberalized vacation policy; union activity not to interfere with advancement of union representatives; any gain achieved through grievance settlement to be retroactive to date the case was filed with the foreman; standard price to continue on transferred job; GE to pay all lost time within plant.

Wage structure to be negotiated locally with proper relationship between job rate and piece work AER; automatic progression on all jobs; veterans' military service to apply toward progression time; union-company apprenticeship in trades; extra pay for lunch hour emergency work.

Average earnings for waiting time and for inventory; clarifying leader classification; 8 hours or 8 hours' pay for any employe who reports for work; extra time lost in lateness to be deducted, for three minutes allowed at night for punching out.

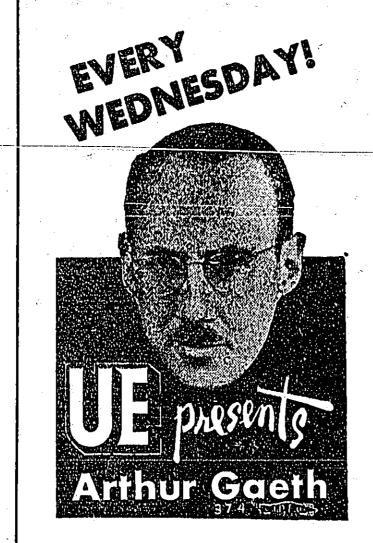
ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO

Workers of America, CIO
SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

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SCHENECTADY PRINTING CO., INC.



UE Broadcast

You can hear Arthur Gaeth on the national UE broadcast at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday over WSNY, WROW and WBCA (FM).

Sugar Now on Sale At 301 Food Store

Special attractions this week at the Local 301 Food Center, 1027 State St., are sugar, a greater variety of soap products, margarine at 35 cents a pound and a limited supply of shortening.

Last week, when the store sold sugar for the first time, the 3500 pounds of granulated sugar were quickly snapped up. A much larger supply was ordered for this week, plus powdered, light brown and dark brown sugar.

As only five cases of shortening could be obtained, only one three-pound can will be sold to an individual. Meat on sale includes hamburg, frankfurters, veal roasts, beef roasts and Italian and Polish salami. There is also lard.

Delivery service has been discontinued until more satisfactory arrangements can be made.

The store was to be open yesterday and will be open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. tomorrow.

Sales last week reached the new high of \$10,178.91. The store took in \$2,-130.12 Thursday; \$4,490.05 Friday and \$3,558.74 Saturday.

Sales during Thanksgiving week came to \$7,643.21. The November total was \$27,508.95.

GE Agrees to Apply Step Rate to Prices

As a result of the demand by UE that the General Electric Company submit a number of long-standing disputes to arbitration, James W. Burnison last week agreed to comply in the future with the contract provision that new piece work prices be set on the basis of the step rate plan. This plan raised some timing rates from ½ to 4½ cents an hour.

The company had refused to apply this to new prices set by table, estimate or comparison. Burnison specifically agreed that the new table prices would be made to conform with the increases in timing rates. Details of application, including the method of figuring in estimates or comparisons, were to be worked out in a New York meeting this week, in which Leo Jandreau will represent Local 301.

Burnison still refused, however, to apply the increases retroactively.

The arbitration demand also brought a 10-cent raise, retroactive to May 22, for a group leader in Bldg. 73A. He will receive well over \$100 in back pay.

Burnison also finally agreed to submit four cases to arbitration. Three of these involved union claims that groups had been placed incorrectly on "continuous process' and thereby deprived of overtime pay. The groups include the silicone reactor operators, the coal handlers in Bldg. 265, and two laboratory workers in the same building. Considerable back pay claims are involved.

The other case to go to arbitration is the claim of twenty-year men pensioned April 30 to receive pay for a third week's vacation and a retroactive raise to April 14.

Discussion in New York On Christmas Eve Hours

Business Agent Leo Jandreau was to take up this week in New York City with James Burnison the complaint of second shift workers about their Christmas Eve working schedule.

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, told the union this week that again this year the first shift would work its regular hours the day before Christmas and the second shift would be through at 8 p.m., after four or four and a half hours' work. The union says both shifts should work an equal number of hours.

Stevens announced the third shift will report Christmas night and work a full shift.

Union Plans Fight On Rem-Rand Action The General Executive Board of LIE

December 12, 1947

The General Executive Board of UE at its meeting in New York City this week was to plan the union's fight against the latest anti-union actions of Remington-Rand, Inc.

Rem-Rand announced Monday it has broken relations with UE, bargaining agent for 10,000 workers, because UE will not place itself in the power of the Taft-Hartley labor board. The company refuses to honor its contracts with UE or the agreement settling last summer's five-week strike.

UE has represented Rem-Rand workers for years and there is no question of its position as bargaining agent. Rem-Rand workers recently voted to reject a Taft-Hartley contract and again declared their support of the UE program.

Rem-Rand was unable to get the number of employe signatures necessary to file a petition asking for decertification of the UE. Then it filed a petition of its own asking the Taft-Hartley Board to conduct elections at its plants.

The Board turned down the petition on the grounds that UE hasn't filed affidavits with the board.

Robert N. Denham, general counsel of the Taft-Hartley board, gave a newspaper interview on the subject after attending a dinner of the National Association of Manufacturers at the Waldorf-Astoria. He said if Rem-Rand enters a contract with UE it does so "at its own peril", but admitted Rem-Rand could legally sign such a contract.

The national UE has protested to the Taft-Hartley board that Denham's statement was "a call to arms to all employers to break contracts."

The UE has taken the same position as the United Steelworkers and many other unions in refusing to file non-Communist affidavits or use the Taft-Hartley board in any way.

Committee Rejects Factional Statement

The editorial committee of Local 301 has received from Frank Fiorillo, Martin J. Stanton, and Carmine J. Di Girolamo a request that the EU News carry the text of a long statement by them attacking the membership's position on Judge Alexander's decision overruling the membership of the union. The statement appears to be the one which was quoted in the Gazette recently. In accordance with established editorial policy, this paper carries actions of the membership, and not statements by factional groups opposing majority rule.

Finds 301 Election Fair and Impartial



County Election Commissioner Charles
W. Eckel cutting the seal on a voting
machine at the Local 301 election.

Charles W. Eckel, county commissioner of elections, issued the following statement Dec. 5 after the votes were counted in the Local 301 election.

"I was asked by the Election Committee of Local 301 to check the machines and the conduct of the machine voting in the election of union officers concluded this evening. I personally supervised the setting-up of the machines, checked them before their opening, and sealed them at the close. Two custodians from my staff were in attendance throughout the election. In addition, I visited the polls on several occasions. This was one of the first times that a union has held an election on voting machines. I made suggestions to the Election Committee on the method of conducting the vote. and these were accepted. I am satisfied that the election was fair and impartial in every respect, and protected fully the rights of all candidates."

Mayor Mills Ten Eyck visited the hall before the voting started. City Manager Arlen T. St. Louis, also invited by the Election Committee to attend, did not appear. He sent a letter explaining that he considered the election "purely a matter of private concern and in no manner connected with government."

ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS

Board Protests GE Interference

The entire Local 201 Executive Board recently met with J. M. Howell, works manager, and Louis Male, general superintendent, to demand that action be taken to stop interference in the union's affairs by engineers and foremen.

Leo Jandreau asked that Howell write a letter to the foremen instructing them not to interfere. Howell first refused, and then said he would consider the matter.

Jandreau cited specific instances of such interference by an engineer in Bldg. 96 and a piece rate man in 73A; the fact that so-called "Democratic action" groups had called lunch hour meetings and walked off the job repeatedly in connection with attacks on the 301 officers, without objection from supervision; and abuse against a board member by a foreman in 69.

Howell denied the charges of interference by the engineer and piece rate man, and said moreover the company was not responsible for the engineer's remarks. He claimed that top supervision learned about the other instances long after they occurred.

Jandreau pointed out that attacks on the union in the "Works News" and Charles Wilson's speeches against the UE leadership must inevitably give the idea to foremen that the company wants them to interfere. Howell did not answer.

Transport Workers Win 10 Cent Raise

Local 159, Transport Workers Union, CIO, has won a 10 cents-an-hour pay raise from the Schenectady Railway Company, effective when the 1948 contract goes into operation in January.

The company's first proposals would have cut take-home pay about \$10 a week and would have scrapped the pension system. After the union distributed a leaflet throughout the city exposing these proposals, the company quickly reached an agreement.

Speaks at Buffalo

Business Agent Leo Jandreau spoke at a meeting of UE officers and shop stewards from Buffalo and Tonawanda UE locals at Buffalo recently.

Section Night Tonight

There will be a Section Night party for Bldgs. 85, 96, 101, 105, 107 and 109 tonight at 301 hall. Similar programs for other sections will start in January.