

Meany Condemns Proposed Legislation

AFL-CIO President George Meany has taken the offensive against proposed legislation to regulate unions in a broadside fired at bills now before Congress.

Appearing before a Subcommittee of the Senate Labor Committee headed by Massachusetts Senator John Kennedy, the AFL-CIO head flatly declared that most of the proposed legislation was unnecessary, some of it was based on ignorance of the labor movement and a great deal of it was clearly discriminatory against labor.

At the same time Meany laid down a number of measures, including the Douglas Bill for the full disclosure of welfare and pension plans, tightening up of union financial reports and making bribery on the part of both management and labor a crime, which he thought would help keep corruption out of labor-management relations.

He objected strongly, however, to legislation which in effect would put the Federal Government into the business of regulating internal union affairs, of enacting laws that would compel unions to do things which are not equally applicable to corporations, and of seeking to legislate union democracy and ethics.

Meany stressed repeatedly that the AFL-CIO Ethical Practices Code dealt with most of the matters on which legislation was being proposed. He took the position that it was far healthier for the labor movement to regulate itself than to be the object of one-sided legislation that would weaken and hamstring it in its fight for labor justice.

He laid down five guide-posts which he suggested Congress should bear in mind in whatever labor legislation it enacts. Here they are:

1. The great majority of the trade union movement and of its leaders are not crooks.

2. The majority must not be punished because of the sins of the few.

3. It would be criminal to adopt laws which would punish those who are the victims of the crooks by stripping their unions of their rights and powers.

4. The self-regulatory steps which the AFL-CIO has taken and is continuing to take will, in the long run, prove far more effective than some of the legislation already proposed by those who do not understand the problems of workers or the operations of a trade union or even the temptations of the market place.

5. Finally, that for every crooked

IUE-CIO 301 On the Job

IUE Local 301 handles thousands of grievances at all levels each year. These are just a few examples of cases, not settled at steward-foreman level, to be processed at management level.

Bldg. 49: The Union is charging violation of Local Supplement under Article II, Sect. E, in this instance refusing to let the complainant in the case, Earl E. Cobart displace a shorter service employee on milling machine - duplicator buckets, 1-20, in Steam Turbine, a job which he formerly held in Steam Turbine.

Bldg. 53: The group under Shop Steward G. Smith feel that if the foreman gives instructions and these instructions are followed and bad work results, the foreman should accept the responsibility of the bad work and not try to blame it on the operators.

Bldg. 49: Ralph Fogg who works in Shop Steward P. Pisano's group is requesting that he be paid for time lost while waiting for inspection.

Bldg. 273: The group on the 3rd shift in the large drilling section under Shop Steward W. Van Denburgh feel that they should have the services of a Dispatcher as there is no one available to give out prints or vouchers.

Bldg. 273: The group under Shop Steward P. Butchkowski are charging violation of contract under Article X, Sect. 1(c), in this instance putting a shorter service employee on an opening and bypassing longer service employees who should have been upgraded.

Bldg. 60: The Union is charging the Company with violation of the Local Supplement under Article II, Sect. E, in this instance not allowing Joseph Bienick who works in Shop Steward W. Martin's group and has held Assembly and Erect Class "A", to displace a shorter service Assemble and Erect in another division.

Bldg. 285: The Sub-arc group under Shop Steward E. Badalucco feel that the price being paid for the preheating and heating of diaphragms is inadequate. They are requesting proper payment for the time spent doing this operation.

Bldg. 273: The group under Shop Steward F. Waldron feel that a Class "AA" Cranefollower should follow the 100-ton crane in K-Bay and not a Class "A" Cranefollower.

Bldg. 273: The group under Shop Steward S. Wright feel that the rates in the C-25 crib should be the same as the rates in the K-10 and Bldg. 285 cribs.

Bldg. 285: The Welders under Shop Steward E. Badalucco feel that they should be paid for repair work as they have been in the past and are requesting that this be done.

Bldg. 18: Due to the increase in skill and responsibility on the Mill & Center job at Station 516-R, the Union is requesting an upward revision in rate from an I-17 to an I-19 rate.

Bldg. 49: The group under Shop Steward J. Mangino are protesting the condition of the grinding wheel at A-40. They feel that shop equipment should be maintained so that safe working conditions prevail.

Bldg. 40: The group under Shop Steward A. Coco feel that checking coils, etc., into the accumulator area and putting them away is not part of a Production Follower's Cl. B duties. They request that the Company investigate.

Bldg. 85: The groups under Shop Stewards J. De Graff and A. Morrow are protesting the practice of office personnel doing bargaining unit work. The work in question is the Bin Reserve of Bldgs. 85 and 81 is definitely stock room work.

Bldg. 50: The group under Shop Steward D. La Fountain are dissatisfied with the rate given them on the Assemble, Stack, Punch and Broach work. The Union is requesting a much higher rate for this type of work.

Bldg. 24: The group under Shop Steward M. Milkins who work on the 5/8 to 4 1/2 in hand screw machines are complaining about the new inspection system. They feel that if they are only going to be paid for pieces that check 100% perfect, they should be paid to check every piece when they make it.

Sorenson Unwilling To Debate

Our Conference Board Chairman, John Callahan, challenged D. L. Sorenson, Manager of Plant Union Relations, to debate the issue of Employment Security. Mr. Sorenson would not accept the challenge. He tried to pass it off as being politics. The truth of the matter is that there is no better way to bring the facts before the public than to have the interested parties face each other in debate. Could it be that Mr. Sorenson is afraid of all the facts? Could it be that he is afraid that the subject of profits might be brought into the picture? It would seem that if Mr. Sorenson is so sure of his position, he should be willing to defend it in public debate. The representatives of this issue stand ready to debate this issue before the public at any time.

Trade union leader engaged in the unsavory task of "selling out" the workers there is a crooked business man. We urge that you move against the crooks, whether in business or in labor; that you not move against the labor movement because some crooks managed to infiltrate our ranks.

Books For The Summer

Summer is the time for vacation, travel, outdoor living. The Schenectady County Public Library has schedules of theatres, musical organizations and other attractions in the vicinity, maps of cities and states, information about foreign and United States travel. Material like the following will give you suggestions to help you enjoy the summer to the fullest:

How to Build Outdoor Fireplaces and Furniture. Fawcett. 1957.

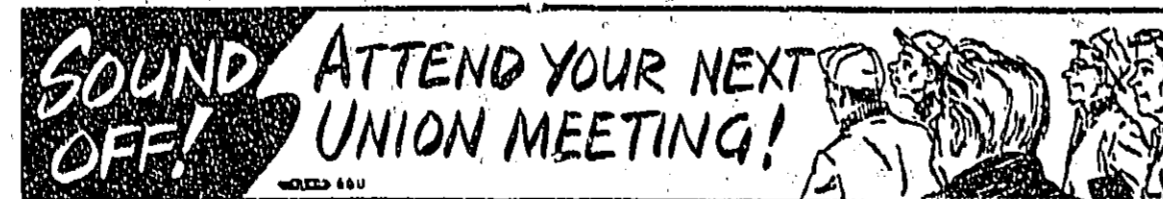
Pamphlet: Fireplaces, Outdoor.

Machinery Around Your Country Home. H. L. Nichols. North Castle. 1957. 631.3N61. The intelligent purchase and use of all kinds of outdoor machinery is discussed.

The Outdoor Encyclopedia. Theodore Kesting. Barnes. 1957. 796.54K42. This comprehensive, alphabetical guide includes material on activities like boating, camping, photography, fishing and a list of national parks and forests.

The Picnic Book; 100 Outdoor Meals. M. C. Tracy. Scribner. 1957. 641.5T76pi.

72 New Bird Houses, Feeders You Can Make. H. Sibley. Goodheart. 1957. 598.3S56.



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

Published by the Editorial Committee
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Vice President John Stamba
Treasurer Gerald O'Brien
Recording Secretary Larry Gabe
Ass't Recording Secretary Michael Rakvica
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121 ERIE BLVD. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

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LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

Vol. 4 — No. 33

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

June 13, 1958

Local 301 Workers Get True Facts Report on Educational Conference

Local 301, in cooperation with District #3 and the International Union, has just completed a very successful Leadership Education Conference.

Over 250 members attended the four day conference held in our Auditorium on June 2, 3, 4 and 5. This number consisted of Officers, Board Members, Shop Stewards and interested members.

The conference was directed by Ben Segal, National IUE Education Director, and Ed Grabowski, District #3 Education Director. These men are to be complimented on the planning that went into the preparation of this conference and also for the way that it was conducted.

The program covered many subjects which directly affect the members of our Union, their families and the community. These subjects were presented by experts brought in by our International Union and the highlight of the conference was an address by Al Hartnett, our National Secretary-Treas. Brother Hartnett in his forthright presentation clearly proved with facts and figures that we can be truly proud of our Union from top to bottom and from its collective bargaining program to its code of ethical practices. He also pointed out that we must become active in C.O.P.E. to be sure that our legislative bodies are not controlled by puppets of Big Business but rather by people who advocate social justice. If this is not done, we can lose by bad legislation many of the things we have gained through organization and collective bargaining. After his very informative and enlightening talk, Brother Hartnett answered any and all questions.

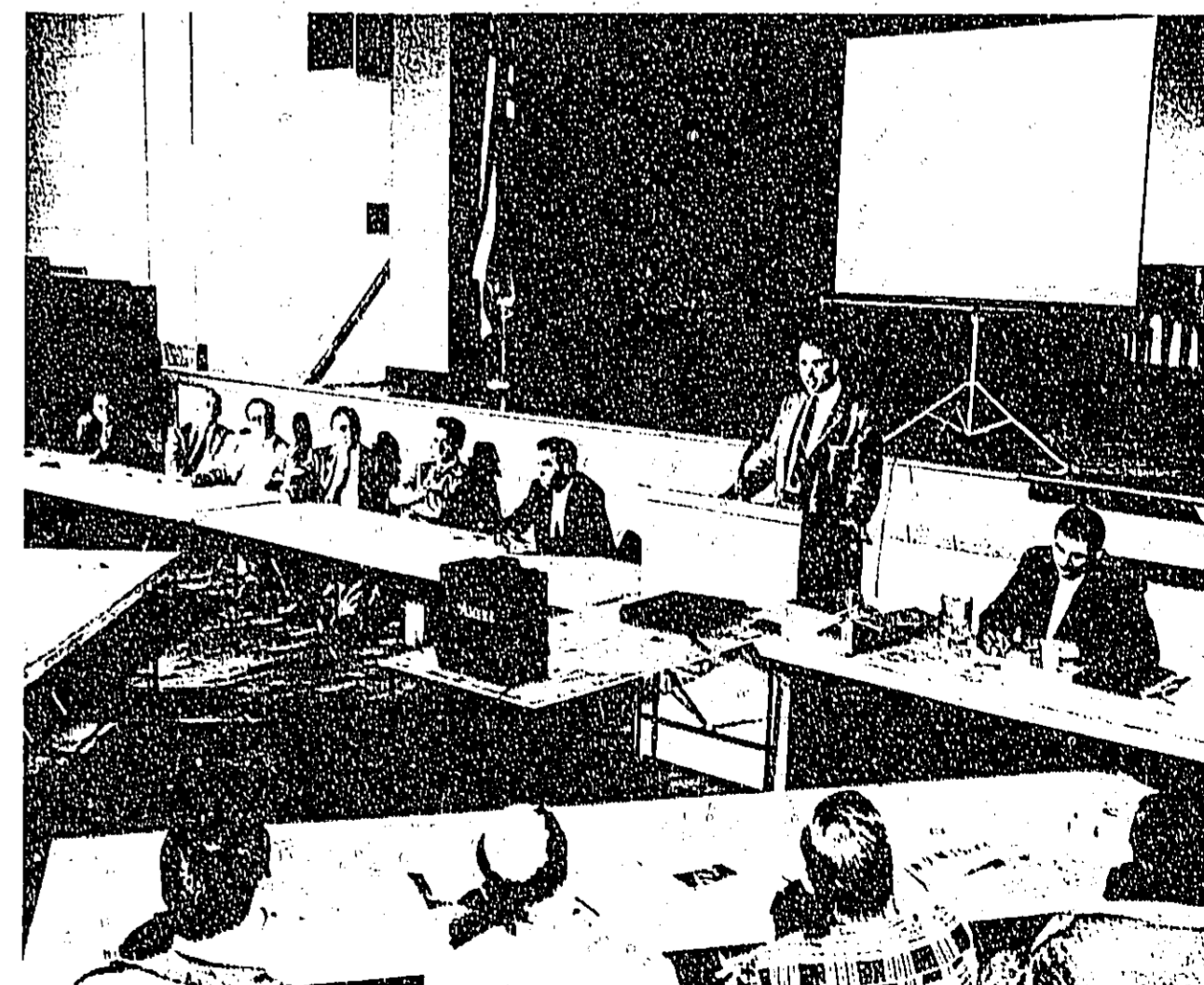
Another important session was on "Wages, Prices and Profits." The instructor on this subject was Sam Jacobs, one of the nation's leading economists and Washington representative for the United Auto Workers. In his address and in particular through his answers to the many questions, he clearly proved that the only thing to solve the recession and really bring about an upturn is to put more money into the hands of the working people. This can be brought about in many ways, but, as long as corporations such as G.E. say they will double their production in the next 10 years without in-

creasing the working force, it cannot be done. It can be done when this greater production brings about a shorter work week and job security for more people. Mr. Jacobs cited the IUE 8-point program as being sound and a step in the right direction.

The conference certainly helped to analyze much of the G.E. propaganda and to prove that the G.E. is taking advantage of an economic condition to try to force many adverse changes on our people. All G.E. has offered to solve the recession is a slogan but not a cut in prices, and their profits could certainly stand a cut. They are asking everyone to act as salesmen to maintain their profits while our people are being laid off.



Some of the members who attended the Four Day Education Conference.



Al Hartnett, National Secretary-Treasurer addressing the Education Conference.

NOTICE

Membership & Stewards Meeting

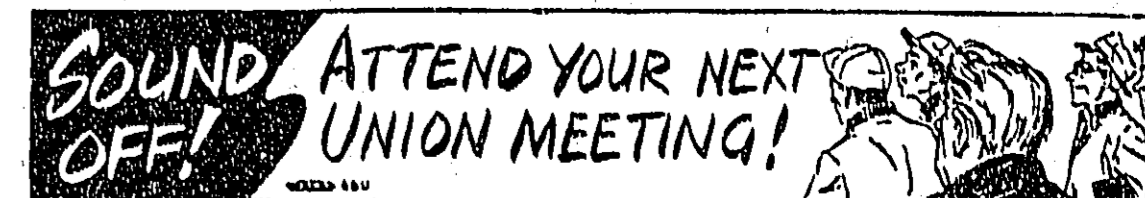
Monday, June 16, 1958

2nd Shift—1:00 p.m.

1st and 3rd Shifts—7:30 p.m.

Union Auditorium
121 Erie Blvd.

Report of Committees
Regular Order of Business



The Right to Work

Oh yes, he had the Right to Work; the Right to Work had he: The bosses were quite confident that the workers were all free—Free to make a contract that a lonesome worker could with any corporation that was out to do him—good.

And do him good they have indeed, when dividends declined Or when the hosts of unemployed each other undermined. But he had this inspiration, had he been inclined to shirk, That though he couldn't find a job, he had the Right to Work.

He told this to his grocer, when the grocer wanted cash, He told it to the butcher for a bit of meat for hash. He told it to the banker, and the landlord and the kirk— He said, "I have no money, but I have the Right to work."

And some of them admitted they were for the Open Shop, But nobody would deal with him—except a Cossack cop, Who took him in for vagrancy and with ironic smirk Put him on the rock pile where he found his Right to Work.

IUE-CIO 301 On the Job

IUE Local 301 handles thousands of grievances at all levels each year. These are just a few examples of cases, not settled at steward-foreman level, to be processed at management level.

Bldg. 53: The Union feels that the practice of holding apprentices on the Apprentice Program and giving them work which should be done by Journeymen is negating the intent of the National Contract, by having shorter service employees work on jobs that could be done by longer service employees. We feel that this is an obvious plan on the Company's part to get the work done cheaper and to further reduce the number of Journeymen and also make a savings on the difference between their Journeyman's rate and the rate of the job on which they are forced to bump.

Bldg. 18: The group under Shop Steward J. Zimmer feel it is wrong to use day workers from the chip room to do the piece work paint spraying. They request that this practice be stopped.

Bldg. 273: The Union is charging violation of contract under Article V, Sect. 8, Para. 4-B, in this instance the Company is refusing to pay report-in time to an employee in Shop Steward F. Decker's group.

Bldg. 57: The price for closing elbows in a 50 square flask is \$4.40. Anthony Osterlitz who works in Shop Steward W. Laskevich's group is requesting that he be paid this price on elbow pattern #518C599-H1.

Bldg. 273: The group under Shop Steward R. Bergin feel that they should not be sent home because the Company chooses to weld a job on a machine for production reasons.

Bldg. Knolls: The group under Shop Steward R. Robbins request that the salaried workers cease doing work on Ceramics which should be done by bargaining unit employees. They feel that this situation forced the layoff of one of the employees in their group.

Bldg. 60: The group under Shop Steward J. Saccocio feel that the planned price on upper bearing brackets is inadequate. They request payment for extra work as in the past or that the price be adjusted to properly pay for work performed.

Bldg. 273: The group under Shop Steward J. Orbaez feel that a 15% compensating allowance is not sufficient for the Gray Horizontal Boring Mill. They request an adequate compensating allowance for time that is lost.

Bldg. 273: L. Underhill who works in Shop Steward P. Maietta's group feels that the price on short order work on Turret Lathe should be adjusted so that he can maintain his earnings.

**LOCAL 301
PARTY NITES
EVERY TUESDAY
7:00 p.m.
UNION AUDITORIUM**

VACATION RATE:

Due to the number of transfers and changes in rates in the Schenectady Plant, this will perhaps answer some of the questions which will arise. For vacation purposes this is the method by which the rate of vacation pay is estimated:

"Whichever is greater"—current rate or year end rate (average earning rate obtained from last periodic average earning report in the year preceding). The above has nothing to do with number of hours to be paid—it applies only to the rate-of-pay.

**BE UNION
BUY UNION** Demand the Union Label

Current Events In My Section

by Allen E. Townsend

Docket 8221-58 was recently settled satisfactorily at the New York level. This case filed by Steward Punchak under Board Member Villano, Knolls, requested a rate increase for two men in his group. This case was proved beyond a shadow of a doubt at the second step meeting and shortly afterwards Labor Relations at Knolls contacted the Union and offered a one step increase. This one step increase was accepted in behalf of the workers. The Union at this point asked the labor negotiator at Knolls for retroactive pay to the date the case was filed. This retroactivity was refused even though it has been past practice to pay rate increases retroactive to the date the grievances are processed. At this point we were forced to send the case to the New York level on the point of retroactive pay. At New York the Company used some phony information given them by Labor Relations at the Knolls that the job on which the raise was granted had had extra duties added to it after the case was processed; therefore, they owed no retroactive pay. This argument had a phony sound even to the Company negotiators at New York. This case was, therefore, sent back to Schenectady for

further consideration. Shortly after this, the one step increase was made retroactive to the date of the case. Processing this case to the New York level undoubtedly cost the Company and the Union much more than the total retroactive pay. This grievance could have been settled locally without all this extra bother and expense.

Docket 8551-58 filed in Bldg. 37 under Board Member Schaffer was filed in protest of a decision given to the stewards in this department by General Foreman Hunt. Mr. Hunt informed the Union representative that whenever he was notified of a bump coming into the department from the outside, that he would downgrade the man being bumped rather than accept the bump coming into the department. At a second step meeting the Union representatives protested this obvious effort to bypass seniority by downgrading in the department. This case was resolved at this meeting with a complete reversal of Bldg. 37 supervision. They agreed to accept legal bumps into the department. They also agreed that if any lack of work existed in the department, they wouldn't wait for a bump to come in before issuing a lack of work notice to the workers where the lack of work exists.

Occupational Loss of Hearing: New Law Passed

Workers who have lost part of their hearing as a result of a noisy occupation are affected by a new law which was passed by the State Legislature.

Under this law, a worker cannot receive any compensation benefits for his loss of hearing while he is still employed under noisy conditions. Only after he has been away from such work for six months, can the worker receive his benefits.

If a worker continues on his noisy work but dies before he has been separated from this kind of work for at least six months, then his dependents will be entitled to receive the benefits for his loss of hearing. In such cases, however, it is necessary to show what percentage of loss of hearing the man had

prior to his death so that benefits can be accurately computed. Naturally, this cannot be done unless the worker has first been checked for loss of hearing; hence it is important that claims be filed with a medical report as soon as a worker is aware that he has suffered a loss of hearing! This will protect him and his family to receiving benefits for this occupational disease. Members of Local 301 who feel that they have a loss of hearing due to their occupation should consult the union's lawyer at union headquarters.

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AS I SEE IT

by CHARLES SCOTT

The Allpurpose Lightening Company again had a surplus profit and the great leaders of the corporation met to decide what should be done with this money. The advertising chief wanted more money for advertising the Company's product; for, he explained, if we bring our product before the public more often, it will increase sales and, therefore, more profits, but he was not the "fair haired boy" at this time; the propagandist head quickly took over saying, "why produce more, if my propagandist experts can convince the public that the workers are getting too much money and not working hard enough, we can make higher profits without selling more". Then he quickly outlined how he would get the public to swallow this "propaganda pill". "First, we will go on television and present a program featuring law enforcement; for if anyone dares to criticize our methods, they will obviously be against law and order. We will present a reasonably well written show and inject our propaganda between acts so we will have, in effect, a captive audience. We will call this show 'Nate Gooper, Arm of the Law'." So the program was started and the propagandist scheme was running real smoothly until on one show a camera and sound defect kept the camera and sound running, showing the complete propagandist section instead of cutting back to the story after the rehearsed portion. The imaginary "commercial" ran something like this:

Fade-in showing main entrance to the Allpurpose plant with soft soothing music. A soft spoken announcer eases in saying, "Tonight your humane, benevolent, friendly, kind sweet neighbor, the Allpurpose Lightening Company brings you a typical interview between our benevolent Mr. Ron Acheson and an old trusted employee to disprove the ugly rumors that employees are not being properly placed. Mr. Acheson will speak first."

Mr. A: "Well, Mr. Smith, through the outrageous demands of labor and employees not doing a full day's work, thus causing overproduction, which in turn caused the recession, you find yourself on a lack of work."

Old Trusted Employee: "That is right except my name is Jones, not Smith. I am a last minute replacement. Smith had to go to the hospital as he has pneumonia again."

Mr. A: "Well, I'm sure he will be well taken care of by our fine hospital plan and the only cost will be the initial \$100.00 after which almost everything is free. Remem-

ber now, I said almost everything, but this is not the issue tonight. Could you, Mr. Jones, explain to me your problem from the printed card in front of you and please think of me as your friend and call me Ron."

Old Trusted Employee: "Well, Mr. Acheson, I mean Ron, my trouble is—although the Company has fought hard to keep me on the job, I am out of work."

Mr. A: "Mr. Jones, by reading your personnel record, I find you are in Bldg. 552 as a large lightening rod welder at I-23. We have made you a fine offer and will provide you with a job that will keep you busy, probably as long as you live."

Old Trusted Employee: "Really, Ron, I'm not sick; it's just those cases of pneumonia that have dragged me down."

Mr. A: "Mr. Jones, just read the printed card please."

Old Trusted Employee: "Sorry, Ron. Yes, that is indeed fine of the Company to offer me this very good job while they are battling Unions which are out to hurt our grand Company."

Mr. A: "Well, Mr. Jones, if you are happy, so am I."

The announcer's voice was supposed to cut in here saying, "So neighbors you can see the ugly rumors of harsh placement treatment to employees is false as you have just seen an actual interview"—but the camera and sound stayed on Mr. Acheson and Old Trusted Employee Jones and the actual interview then started:

Mr. A: "Jones, how come you were sent here without my first being notified and you should have been thoroughly investigated first?"

Old Trusted Employee: "I have all the qualifications, Ron, I have never belonged to the, forgive the expression, Union, never complained about working conditions and above all never questioned a price on a job; so, Jack, that's my foreman, thought I would be perfect for this interview."

Mr. A: "First, Jones, let's get back down to earth. Kindly call me Mr. Acheson and I will call you Jones. I also noted that you referred to your foreman as Jack—that kind of talk is bad. This would appear that you are familiar with your foreman and familiarity breeds contempt and anyone who is presumed to be contemptuous of his foreman, is a troublemaker and should be watched."

Old Trusted Employee: "Mr. Acheson, I have been a welder for you on large lightening rods for many years and must now take a

"Soapy" Van Fechtmann New Laundry Tycoon

by Fay Hildreth

ATTENTION: LAUNDRY WORKERS—Mr. Van Fechtmann, Unit Manager of the Tube Dept., is in the laundry business. He is using women employed in the Tube Dept. to do this work by utilizing them during their rest periods, working at an R-7 rate. We doubt if this will make the local laundry workers too happy. The following is a copy of the communication issued in the Tube Dept.:

"Subject: WASHING OF UNIFORMS

"To: ALL MANUFACTURING-SUB-SECTION MANAGERS AND UNIT FOREMAN

"The Camera Tube Unit has installed, and in operation, an Automatic Washing Machine and Dryer. We are prepared to wash uniforms for all of the Units on an overnight basis. The cost will be fifty cents (50c) for men's uniforms including the caps, and forty cents (40c) for women's uniforms including caps.

"We are presently washing the uniforms using Wisk, and using Nu-Soft in our rinse water to reduce the static electricity.

"If you are interested in using this service, please contact George Pearse in the Camera Tube Unit to work out details of pick-up and delivery."

"W. R. Van Fechtmann
"WRV/mb
5/26/58"

Prior to the new set-up above, "Soapy" Van Fechtmann rolled up his own sleeves and did the washing himself, working on Saturdays and Sundays.

cut-in wages because the Company will not let me bump in the giant lightening rod department on the same work."

Mr. A: "Jones, let me tell you—first, I don't like the insinuation that our benevolent company is not fair and secondly, your rate on welding vertical and horizontal large lightening rods is I-23 and the rate on welding giant lightening rods in Bldg. 2273 is I-24. That is an upgrade."

Old Trusted Employee: "But Mr. Acheson, at the Clairmont Fairgrounds on our 'Oldtimers' Get Together Day', Mr. Leavins said us oldtimers are the backbone of the Company and I believed that when I got in trouble, the Company would help me."

Mr. A: "Times change, Jones, and you must realize that we are running a business, not a home for broken-down welders. You're not so young anymore and seeing you have only worked on this one job for the Company, you are a problem to us."

Old Trusted Employee: "Mr. Acheson, I have always done good work, never lost time and always read and believed the Lightening News. I feel you are morally obligated to help me maintain my earnings, for it is not my fault you are moving the large lightening rod part of the plant to a southern state."

Mr. A: "Jones, I don't want to quarrel with you. These are the facts. I will repeat them once and remember them and you will get along better in the future. You are

Boys Club Benefit

The Schenectady Boys Club is holding a Fireworks Festival at Altamont Fairgrounds on July 2, 1958. The price of admission for adults is \$1.00 Children under 12 are admitted free when accompanied by an adult. The program starts at 7:30 p.m., and will consist of band music, barbershop quartet singing and 50 minutes of fireworks display. Tickets can be obtained through your Shop Steward or Board Member.

This is a worthy cause which deserves your support as the proceeds will help to defray some of the cost to the boys attending Camp Lovejoy, the Boys Club day camp.

old, not versatile, and you have the mistaken idea that because of long and faithful service, the Company owes you something. Well, you were always paid for work done and as far as moral obligations go, just look at what we did to the female workers in the plant and you will realize that we do only what we are forced to do and do not recognize moral obligations as they do not show on the balance sheet. Now stand and recite with me the Company slogan:

Mr. A & Old Trusted Employee: "A lower standard of living for employees and higher profits for the Company is our main goal."

Mr. A: "Jones, take what is offered and consider yourself lucky to have a job. This interview is over."