

## Six More Shop Committeemen Take Oath of Office at Union Hall



George Walker, guide, with back to camera, swears in a group of Local 301 shop stewards. Left to right, John Bracken, Bldg. 53; Harold A. Ferro, Bldg. 69; Sydney Lupe, Bldg. 89, and Lanson L. Cole, Bldg. 53.

### Timing Rate Case Sent to Howell

Local 301 this week sent to Works Manager J. M. Howell its demand that the company enforce, with back pay, the contract provision under which the step rate plan raised some piece work timing rates from 1/2 cent to 4 1/2 cents an hour. It applied to prices set after April 30, 1945.

The provision reads:

"New incentive prices will be set on the basis of the established step rate plan for incentive workers."

A committee of representatives who found that in their departments the old timing rates, from 2 to 4 cents below the correct ones, had been applied, met with A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, to discuss the case last Thursday. The complaints were from Bldgs. 14, 49, and 60.

Stevens contended that "the clause means where new figuring or new time studies are required, the new rates should apply, and that he did not recognize it as applying to prices set by comparison, estimate, or by tables.

Where the lower rate was used in time studies, it would be corrected, Stevens said. The cases discussed involved mainly comparison, estimate, and PR tables. In such cases, Stevens argued, the change in timing rate did not apply. If the workers were generally able to make their AER on such prices, the company considered that the clause had been complied with. He claimed that comparisons and estimates were not accurate enough to be affected by the change in timing base rate.

The committeemen insisted that the contract clause meant what it said, and

### 762 New Members

William Stewart, chairman of the Organizing Committee, reported 762 new members enrolled in Local 301 as of Tuesday, since the start of the organizing drive.

A dollar will be paid to each 301 member for every application card turned in through Monday, June 2.

that where the timing rate basis for either a table or an estimate price had been raised by 2 to 4 percent, and the new prices were not adjusted accordingly, the prices were necessarily off by those percentages.

Representing the union in the case were Board Members William Stewart and Michael Tedisco, and Committeemen George Weightman of Bldg. 14; Leland Bellinger, William Spellman, James Hay, Frank M. Marley and Charles Wood of 49; and Roy Lash, Emmett Brennan, R. H. Reisinger and Robert Schulenburg of 60. They were assisted by the union grievance committee of President Andrew Peterson, Recording Secretary Helen Quirini, Chief Steward William Mastriani, and Victor Pasche, assistant to the business agent.

### Denounces Anti-Labor Bill

The Rev. Robert S. Hoagland, minister of All Souls Unitarian Church, has announced that as an individual he denounces the Omnibus Labor Bill "as a savage instrument for depriving American citizens of hard-won advantages."

NO MORE FREE RIDERS

### Third Shift Group Asks Quick Action

A group of over 100 third shift Turbine workers at a meeting in 301 Hall Tuesday called for speedy settlement of their grievances about working hours.

They directed union officers to tell local GE management they are tired of delay and demand immediate adjustment. The workers said they are on the third shift as a matter of convenience to the company, not to themselves.

There are two major complaints. The group works 6 1/2 hours a day for five days and then has to work until noon Saturday to complete a 40-hour week. They want a straight eight hour day, five days a week.

At present they get only time and a half, instead of double time, for working the seventh day.

Third shift workers point out that the eight hour day is possible by letting shifts overlap. There are enough idle machines to make this plan feasible.

Business Agent Leo Jandreau and William Kelly, assistant to the business agent, met with the group Tuesday.

### Men Without a Union

The United Auto Workers, CIO, has refused a charter to the former UE Local 411 group at the National Pneumatic Co., Rahway, N. J. The leader of the secession, Robert Funk, was active in the "Committee for Democratic Action" headed by James B. Carey and Harry Block. The United Steelworkers turned down Funk before he tried to beg a charter from UAW.

THE GOAL—100 PER CENT UE SHOP

# Electrical Union News

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA—LOCAL 301 CIO

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## Ask Truman Veto Taft-Hartley Bill

### Labor Department Names Conciliator To UE-GE Dispute

BULLETIN: About 250 workers in Bldg. 81 left their jobs at 3 p.m. Wednesday (as this week's issue of EU News went to press). The stoppage was in protest against GE refusal to arbitrate grievances. Only six people stayed in the shop. They were offered overtime five minutes before the stoppage.

U. S. Conciliator John A. Rooney has been assigned by the federal Department of Labor to the Schenectady industrial dispute over the General Electric Co. violating its contract with UE by refusing to arbitrate grievances.

After a series of stoppages at the plant, Business Agent Leo Jandreau telegraphed Lewis Schwellenbach, U. S. Secretary of Labor, May 28 requesting a conciliator be sent here.

"All grievance steps have been exhausted and company flagrantly violates arbitration provision", the wire stated.

"There already have been seven protest stoppages within the past week as

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### Money for Strikers

The 301 membership meeting May 28 voted a \$100 donation for the 10,000 CIO workers on strike against R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Winston-Salem, N. C. The company produces Camel cigarettes and Prince Albert tobacco. Strikers belong to the Food, Tobacco Agricultural and Allied Workers Union, CIO.

A donation of \$100 was voted for the telephone workers strike.

### Copies of Contract for All

The 301 membership meeting May 28 directed union officers to buy 5,000 copies of the GE contract, in order to have a supply available for all members who ask their stewards for copies. If the supply is exhausted, officers are authorized to order more.

### 301 Queen Contest Draws New Entries



Bonnie Evans

P. Brzezinski

Four more girls have entered the contest for queen of the Local 301 field day. They are Bonnie Evans, Bldg. 16, captain of the 301 girls basketball team and a member last year of the UE girls' softball team; Pauline Brzezinski, Bldg. 68; Ann Koval, Bldg. 81, and Rose De Versa, Bldg. 53.

There are now 12 in the race, as the following contestants were announced previously: Angie D'Elisio, Bldg. 285;

Helen Zielinski, Bldg. 28; Carmela M. Ferrica, Bldg. 60; Stacia Roicki, Bldg. 269; Mary Bonczyk, Bldg. 46; Bernice Blusis, Bldg. 53; Evelyn Haras, Bldg. 29, and Jean Gonia, Bldg. 66.

Field day will be June 29 at Pete and Sally's Grove, Upper Albany St. The Activities Committee is planning a full program of sports, dancing, entertainment, prizes and refreshments.

### Reynolds Is Ill

George Reynolds, second shift steward in Bldg. 60, was taken ill May 29 at work. He will be out for a month.

### Deadline Nears; Write Kearney, Ives and Taylor

Only a few days are left in which to convince President Truman he must veto the labor-smashing Taft-Hartley bill.

Every 301 shop steward should make sure NOW that every man and woman in his group sends a postcard to the White House urging a veto of this bill.

Already thousands of GE workers have sent messages to President Truman, but thousands more must speak up. Some of the messages in the past mentioned anti-labor legislation in general. Now there is one particular bill to concentrate on, the combination Taft-Hartley bill which was agreed on by a Conference Committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The bill may be on President Truman's desk by the time this week's EU News is printed.

Getting a veto is vital, but it's only half the job. The veto must be upheld in Congress. That means that some Senators and Representatives who voted for the Taft-Hartley bill must change their vote if the bill is sent back to Congress.

Write Senator Irving M. Ives at once demanding that he change his vote. Workers who live in the Congressional district of Representative Bernard W. Kearney should demand that he change his vote. Representative Dean Taylor of Troy voted wrong too, so write him if you live in his district.

These letters, postals or telegrams should be sent at the same time the messages are sent to President Truman. There won't be time to start a campaign after a veto. Congress might over-ride the veto the very day the bill is sent back from the White House.

### Support for City Mission

A gift of \$100 for the City Mission was voted by the 301 membership meeting May 28. The Mission is a shelter run by private charity, not by the city.



## Members Approve Changes in Constitution; Simplify System of Nominating 301 Officers

Several changes in the Local 301 constitution recommended by the Constitution Committee were voted by the combined membership and stewards' meeting May 28.

Important alterations were made in rules for nominating officers and in sections concerning shop stewards, in addition to changes in various other parts of the constitution.

Nominations for officers will be made from the floor of the November membership meeting and will not be limited in number. The old provision was for nominations to be made at a committee's meeting in November and submitted to a membership meeting that month for approval or change. Nominees will be informed by registered mail of their nomination and must accept within three days in order to appear on the ballot as candidates. An Election Committee of 25 members will be elected from the floor at the November general membership meeting to direct the elections.

These changes to simplify the election machinery follow the UE model constitution for locals, the Constitution Committee pointed out. The committee includes Edward Wallingford, chairman; Blanchard Mowers, secretary; Frank Emspak, George Walker and Roy Lash, acting in conjunction with Leo Jandreau, business agent.

It's Officially 'Shop Steward' Now  
"Shop representative" and "shop committeeman" are out-of-date terms now. The constitution has been changed to make "shop steward" the official title. The meeting also voted to have new buttons made with the label "shop steward".  
The constitution has been changed to provide that any shop steward who is absent twice in succession from general meetings of shop stewards will be automatically dropped as a steward, unless excused by vote of the Executive Board. (Under the new GE contract stewards have top seniority in their departments in event of layoffs.)

A new sentence is: "A shop steward must have the approval of the Executive Board to represent members outside of

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## Membership Drive Nets 810 New Applications

When the membership drive officially ended June 1, a total of 810 new members had been enrolled in Local 301.

William Stewart, chairman of the Organizing Committee, awarded the \$100 bond first prize to Anthony Villano, Bldg. 37, at the membership meeting May 28 for signing up 81 new members. Richard A. Neilson, Bldg. 69, won a \$50 bond for 25 members and Frank H. Hiller, Bldg. 285, a \$25 bond for 15 members.

The name of Fred Pacelli, Bldg. 101, has been added to the honor roll of stewards, with 100 per cent union membership in their groups.

his or her group, working under another foreman."

Another new provision is: "In all cases of temporary appointments of shop stewards, an election shall take place within 15 days of such appointment."

### Statements to the Press

In connection with union members discussing union matters in the press, the membership voted:

"If any member makes statements through the press affecting union business, other than authorized union officials, before exhausting the procedure within the union, that action shall be considered to be an offense against the union, and shall be subject to Article XXII, Trials and Appeals, in the Constitution."

A new section on Trials and Appeals provides that charges against members be tried under direction of the general membership, instead of under the Executive Board and the shop stewards.

Another recommendation approved by the meeting is to have assistants to the business agent appointed by the business agent, subject to Executive Board approval, instead of being appointed by the Executive Board. The meeting adopted a motion from the floor that this new provision become effective Jan. 1, 1948.

A motion was passed that enough copies of the constitution be printed to supply all 301 members.

## Scribner Will Speak At Veto Day Meeting

As part of the state CIO Veto Day activities a citywide meeting of CIO stewards will take place at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan 10, at 301 Hall to urge President Truman to veto the Taft-Hartley bill.

Principal speakers will be David Scribner, general counsel of the international UE, and Lee Pressman, general counsel of the national CIO and the United Steelworkers of America. All members of 301, as well as the stewards, are asked to attend.

Because of the Veto Day stewards' meeting, the monthly meeting of 301 stewards scheduled for the past Tuesday was canceled. The citywide meeting is sponsored by the Schenectady CIO Coordinating Committee and the Capital District CIO Council.

A joint CIO-AFL protest meeting against the Taft-Hartley bill is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday at Barker Park, Troy.

## Community Group to Hear Facts in Union-GE Dispute

Local 301 has invited a group of Schenectady merchants, professional people, clergymen and civic leaders to a meeting at 8 p.m. Monday, June 9, at the Hotel Van Curler to learn the facts about the refusal of GE to comply with the arbitration provisions of the UE contract.

Invitations were sent to nearly 200 business men who sponsored the town meeting last year, during the GE strike, to demand that the company bargain in good faith with the union.

"If the General Electric Company can persist in its present attitude," the letter announcing Monday's meeting said, "it will mean industrial strife in this city and a reduction in the purchasing power of the workers."

## 301 Letter to Truman

Local 301 this week ran advertisements in both Schenectady newspapers and the Washington Post printing the letter which the union sent President Truman urging him to veto the Taft-Hartley bill.

The letter pointed out that GE is violating its contract with UE by refusing to arbitrate grievances.

"The reason for this brazen stand by GE is obvious," the letter stated. "Its spokesmen in Congress, its employee at the head of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, E. C. Shreve, have been working ceaselessly to enact a law which would break unions, and they are already counting their chickens."



NEW SHOP STEWARDS being sworn in by George Walker, Bldg. 23; Owen B. Phillips, Bldg. 285; Ignatius Derkowski, Local 301 guide, at extreme left. The stewards, left to right, Bldg. 5; John Grasso, Bldg. 81, and William F. Gleason, Bldg. 69.

## Labor Department Names Conciliator

(Continued from Page 1)

a result. Grievances involved have been pending for six months to one year."

The Labor Department took an unusually long time in acting. Jandreau didn't receive a letter announcing Rooney's assignment until Tuesday. Rooney had not contacted him by the time this week's EU News went to press.

### Work Stoppages at Plant

The fifth stoppage at the plant took place May 27 when 36 crane followers in Bldgs. 49 and 60 left work early and went to the union hall. They held a protest meeting over GE refusal to arbitrate longstanding grievances.

Several demonstrations occurred at the shops May 28. All the first floor workers in Bldg. 69, from 150 to 200 people, staged a lunch hour meeting to discuss deadlocked grievance cases. There was no work stoppage.

The 300 workers in Bldg. 73-A also held a lunch hour protest meeting which extended to 12:45 p.m., 15 minutes past the end of the lunch period. They took up the same grievances which 15 men from the building had discussed during a stoppage that Monday.

### Shop Delegates See Foremen

A 15 minute stoppage occurred at 2 p.m. May 28 in Bldgs. 269 and 273, involving about 800 workers. They sent delegations to general foremen, assistant general foremen and foremen.

Just before the stoppage occurred, a foreman scurried around his shop showing warning notices to stewards. "This is what people will get if there's any stoppage here," he said.

At 3 p.m. that day the 350 workers in Bldg. 89, most of them women, left their jobs to protest the grievance dead-

## How to Kill Unions

Here are a few of the worst features of the Taft-Hartley bill. It prohibits the closed shop. It makes it difficult for a union to even ask for maintenance of membership or any form of union security. It makes it easy for employers to break up unions during organizing drives. It lets employers stall indefinitely in contract negotiations. It lets the attorney general get injunctions to stop strikes for 75 days.

It allows employers to replace strikers with strike-breakers. These strike-breakers can vote in a NLRB election and destroy the union's bargaining rights.

It makes it easy to break industrial bargaining units up into little craft units. It deprives workers of the free choice of their officers and representatives. It protects and promotes company unions.

## John Boyle Suspended

A motion to suspend John Boyle, Bldg. 73-A, as shop steward was passed unanimously by the combined membership and stewards meeting May 28.

The Executive Board recommended the action because of Boyle's failure to attend meetings of the local during the past year, as required by the constitution, and because of his failure to appear before the Board to answer complaints made by members in his shop.

lock. They sent delegations to all their assistant general foremen.

The Bldg. 89 stoppage took place while President Andrew Peterson was at a grievance session in Bldg. 41 with General Superintendent Louis Male. Male broke off the session, but continued the meeting next day.

## GE Found Unfair To UE Strikers

A National Labor Relations Board trial examiner has found the General Electric Co. guilty of unfair labor practices in discriminating against workers who took part in the 1946 UE strike. A guarantee against discrimination was one of the conditions on which the strike was settled.

In spite of this agreement, GE later deducted the strike period from the service records of the returned employees. This deprived the strikers of full seniority rights and affected pensions, vacations and other matters. GE employs about 100,000 workers who were on strike nine weeks last year.

The decision of Isadore Greenberg, trial examiner, is subject to approval of the NLRB.

He recommended that GE restore service records of all strikers, reimburse them for "any loss or diminution in their seniority or other rights or privileges they may have suffered" and post 300 notices in GE plants announcing compliance with the order.

The Greenberg report said GE was guilty of "interfering with, restraining and coercing its employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed in Section 7 of the (Wagner) Act."

Under the present NLRB set-up, the matter may not be finally disposed of for six months or more. The company has not yet answered the union's inquiry as to whether it intends to comply with the recommendation.

If the Taft-Hartley bill becomes law, the chances are that the company will be permitted to continue manipulation of service records.