A True Story

are up 721% since 1939.

#### . . . And Some People Want to Make Things Even Finer . . . —

nounced that prices have hit an all-time high, Mike DiSalle, U. S. Price Director, said he was planning to "decontrol" some prices so the bosses could make more profits.

### . . . Some More Decontrol for **Employers**

While some prices were to be decontrolled, in New York City, the bosses' wage

### **DiSalletoName BoardforStudy** Of Decontrols

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 AP) - Price Stabilizer Michael V. DiSalle told congress today he is preparing to appoint a committee to explore the possibility of decontrolling prices in some fields.

### Wage Rollbacks for 7,000 Loom; U.S. Attacks 267 Concerns' Rises

The first crackdown on violators of wage and salary controls in the metropolitan area may result in pay rollbacks for 7,000 workers in 267 New York and New Jersey,

brought by the Union will be re-

before claimants receive a check,

Sheehan has written to N. Y. In-

dustrial Commissioner Edward

Corsi, citing many such complaints.

Four combination welders, two

on second shift and two on third.

have been upgraded in Bldg. 273,

as a result of action by the Union.

working on special welding jobs

and were specially rated on the

job, which was used on a job-to-job

basis. Sometimes assignments

would last as long as five weeks,

depending on the length of the job.

these temporary specially rated

jobs, William Templeton, assist-

ant business agent, argued for the

Union that these welders be up-

graded to the special welders rate;

even-though no immediate change

in its upgrading of workers.

GE also conceded it has been lax

in rate was involved.

In order to protect the rates of

Combination welders had been

Four '273' Welders

Win Upgrading

With respect to the long delays

freeze board announced it was planning to "decontrol" some wages that have gone beyond the "freeze"

#### WHILE THIS MAN ADMITTED

"I can assure you . . . from the depths of my beart, that if it were not for wage controls now . . . wages would go up bigber than they

> ERIC JOHNSTON, former Administrator of Price Stabilization

#### THE MAN WHO RUNS THE BOSSES' ONE-WAY GRAVY TRAIN WARNED

This is what Charles E. Wilson, former GE president, and now "assistant" president as Defense Mobilizer, said last month in a speech at the National Press Club in Washington,

'. . we must and will maintain wage control . . . even at the risk of strikes in key in-

# End the Wage Freeze!

### Union Flays Callous N. Y. Unemployment Practices

The Union has moved on two fronts to end what it terms policies of the New York State Unemployment Division to "make pensioneers a plaything of arbitrary interviewers" and

considered.

defeat the law's aim "to bridge the gap between loss of job and reemployment" by prolonged delays before claimants receive their

"Local 301 Attorney Leon Novak and Fred Sheehan, '301' assistant business agent, lodged the following complaints with J. V. Heckler Scheneetady Division manager:

The division proceeds on the theory that no pensioneer wants to work. Heckler admitted this. He also said that 400 pensioneer cases are on special file to be given "special" treatment to prove they don't qualify for benefits.

Questions are framed in a manner designed to deliberately trappensioneers out of benefits. The division does not tell these people of their legal rights on the theory it might "tip them off."

Pensioneers are disqualified if the won't accept payerates far below what they carned before-even though no specific job is offered.

The division bases its prevailing area rate on non-union, speeded-up sweatshops and excludes the highor GE and Alcorates.

The union got one concession from Heckler at this first meeting. Individual cases of disqualification

### Where There's A Will

GE can come out from behindathat government board it's hiding behind to cover up its role in stalling the 3.58 percent wage increase for its production and maintenance workers.

That GE can act when it wants to was demonstrated in a recent issue of the GE Works News, in the Grapevine, edited by none other than Lewis J. Male, Works manager.

Writing about a case in which overtime for some "exempt" employees was denied by the salary unit of the wage freeze board, the Grapevine said:

"The Company feels this ruling discriminates against a large group of exempt employees and has requested the Board to reconsider our appeal."

What GE can do for its "exempt" employees it can do for its unionized production and maintenance employees. It's time the union employees told them so in a louder and louder voice.

### **Push TV Petitions**

Over 400 workers in Bldgs. 15, 17, 19, Punch Press, Tool & Die, have signed petitions caling upon the Federal Communications Commission to grant another TV channel in the Schenectady area. How many have signed up in your building and section?

### **Political Action Aids UE In Tonawanda**

When members of UE Local 301 rolled up their sleeves and elected their local president as a member of the North Tonawanda Common Council, it was an achievement that is now paying dividends.

Alderman Joseph Kukucka, '304' president, has gotten the Council of this New York town to go on record urging that the Wage Stabilization hurry up and approve improvements won by UE in six local plants.

He also got the Council on record to support State Sen. William Bianchi's bill to repeal the Hughes-Brees, amendments to the state unemployment insurance law.

That's political action paying

UE Local 306 members in the same town canvassed the merchants, doctors and lawyers, with the result that 100 sent messages to the wage freeze board urging prompt approval of UE's cases.

### ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERIC Schonectady GE Local 301 UE

of the same Published by the Editorial Com. Ass't Recording Secretary .... Frank D'Amico Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Henry Kaminski Vice-President \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph Mangino Recording Secretary \_\_\_\_ John P. Green Prosident — William Kelly
Chief Shop Steward — James Cognetta
Business Agent — Leo Jandreau

### 301 LIBERTY ST. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA - LOCAL 301, UE

Vol. 10 - No. 6

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

Friday, February 15, 1952

# Jake It From Here

La Porte, Ind.--When UE members of Locals 119, 173 and 912 teamed up with unorganized workers at the American Rubber Products Corp, the result was one of the quickest organizing drives on brecord. In six days, between Jan. 15 to 21, 135 out of 140 workers joined UE, signed and ratified an agreement with the company.

Miami Beach, Fla.—The AFL executive council at its quarterly meeting accused employers of trying to put pressure on the Wage Stabilization Board to prevent it issuing recommendations favorable to workers.

Toronto, Canada-UE Local 514 members have won a 10 cent hourly increase at the L. C. Smith Typewriter Co.

✓ Kansas City, Mo.—Representatives of 275,000 AFL, CIO and independent oil workers at a joint meeting voted to take a strike poll to back up their joint wage drive to settle for not less than 25 cents an hour increases.

Bristol, Penna.—IUE-CIO raiders at the Barker and Williamson plant were given an 102 to 82 beating by members of UE Local 134.

Washington, D. C.-Next stop for anti-union hearings by the House un-American Committee was announced for Detroit, Feb. 25, at the largest local union in the world, United Auto Workers, CIO, Ford Local 600. \* \* \*

Fort Wayne, Ind.-With 98 percent of UE Local 915 members on record to go on strike to win their demands, the Horton Mfgr. Co. agreed at strike deadline time to a seven cent an hour increase, with another wage reopening in six months.

Frenton, N. J.-The 6,500 AFL employees of the Public Service Transport Co. have won a 17 cent hourly increase and reduction of their work week from 44 to 40 hours. With a strike set for Feb. 1, the bus lines were seized by the state. Their victory resulted from an arbitration.

A crack by one worker at a building meeting last week cut through all the flim-flam about GE and its industry members on the WSB.

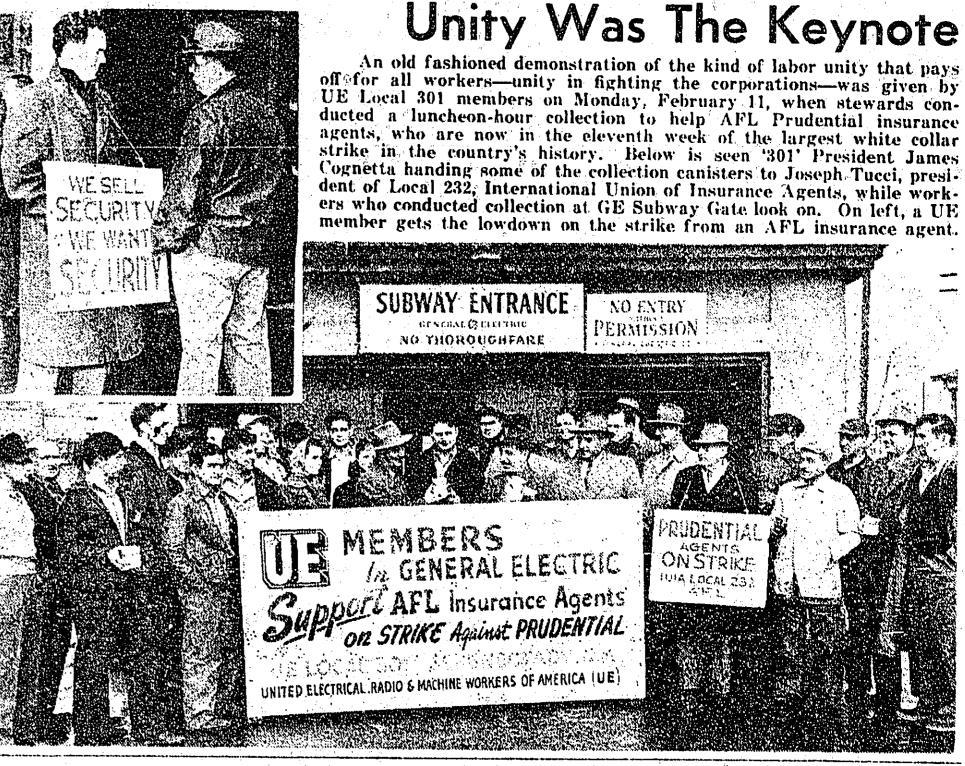
"Who they kidding?" the UE member quipped, as his building membership applauded its approval "All Charley Wilson has to do is pick up a phone and call that wage freeze board to OK the GE increase and it would be approved before he hung up the phone."

to help out GE on its ruse by agreeing to it at once without consulting anyone in his union.

• Though GE said it couldn't attend a meeting with UE officers to see the WSB, continued pressure from its workers found GE Vice President L. R. Boulware a few days later talking to the WSB.

Meanwhile, new evidence came to light to bear out UE's charge that GE's industry members on the WSB intend to stall the 2.50 "productivity" increase, when it was revealed that industry members on Jan. 26, 1952 had stated they "stand against any new wage policy providing for . . . productivity increases."

While these developments were going on, UE '301' building meetings throughout the Works were reported at presstime to be voting overwhelmingly against acceptance of the 1.08 and demanding payment of the full 3.58. Members were making it clear they will be no party to a deal that relieves GE or its WSB industry members, of its responsibility for paying the full 3.58 at once.



# Heat on GE by UE Members Smokes Out Company Stall The shoe was beginning to pinch on GE last week as UE members throughout the chain

poured the pressure on the company to tell its industry members on the wage freeze board to stop the stalling and approve their 3.58 percent increase in full. Some of the rapid-fire developments were: • UE Local 304's proposal that One Phone Call top GE officials go with National

UE officers to the WSB and insist

on prompt action—or face the

threat of demonstrations through-

and appeals committee, called GE

and suggested payment of the 1.08

Feeling the heat, GE changed

its tune on the 1.08 percent cost-of-

living part of the 3.58 package

from refusal to pay it, on ac-

count of the bookkeeping involved,

to a readiness to pay it right away.

This was generally interpreted as

an attempt to "throw a bone" at

its workers while its industry

WSB members continue to stail

• IUE-CIO's "Available" Carey

rushed in to say he was "available"

on the other 2.50 percent.

Don Strauss, of WSB's review

out the chain.

increase at once.

### Price Cuts, Phony Time Studies Halted in 60

A merry-go-round on which only GE got the brass ring is getting a thorough UE overhaul in Bldg. 60. Winders on one job were getting nothing for their work since the 30 percent GE had allocated was exhausted.

The foreman stalled their request for a remedy. He did agree to do something about a price on a second job.

He proposed a time study based on close supervision and immediate direction, by reading the blueprint instead of the operator, with ideal working conditions that never exist normally.

Not wanting to get further in the hole, the men objected. The foreman told the group to go home, which they refused to do. At management level, the merry-go-round went on.

The foreman insisted the men go home. Management insisted they start work. Bldg: 16 winders voted to demonstrate solidarity with Bldg. 60 winders to end such "special time studies."

 UE won agreement for the men to work without a time study, with guarantees furnished for a proper time study-without unwarranted interference from supervision. Also, additional money was allocated for the first job on which the 30 percent was used up.

Handling the grievance were Floyd Warner, steward: Roy Schaffer and John Oberlies, EB members for Bldgs, 60 and 16; and William Templeton, '301' assistant business agent.

Raymond Butkus and George E.

Roman, transferred from Bldg. 15

to Bldg. 17 punch press because of

lack of work, received assurances

they'd be transferred back when

work picked up. They request a

are demanded in A & O in four

groups because discontinuance of

such to break in new assemblers

and C and B men is causing con-

fusion on important government

Discrimination against Ella De-

Masseo is charged. Classified as

E inspector at \$1.42, she has all-

around test work experience. New

test men are hired from gate on

Class D. Reclassification is asked.

Bldg, 60: A spray booth to halt

Bldg. 46: Adequate instructors

Press 232.

transfer back to 15.

# **Prompt Steward Action** Wins Vacation Pay

Paul Plue, tool grinder in A&OS, Bldg. 28, today has a check for \$60.40 because he took up a problem with his UE steward, Harold "Cap" Simpson.

Transferred into Bldg. 28 two months ago from Bldg. 53, he qualified for "one week's vacation on Dec. 28, 1951. When he told his foreman, Plue was told he'd lost his chance because it was 1952.

Simpson checked Plue's Bldg. 53's payroll record and discovered he'd lost five days in 1951 because of illness. The steward argued that Plue should be paid for these five days as vacation pay.

### Tools For Sale

A number of tools, purchased and used only since Dec. 17, 1951 are available at greatly reduced prices, including: 0 to 1 and 1 to 2 and depth micrometers, a Vernier caliber, inside and outside calibers, scales, gages (telescope, ball, radius and depth), protractor; wrenches, screw drivers, combination 6" and 12" squares.

Contact Wm. Hart, 245 Main St., Rotterdam Junction.



**NEWS ITEMS:** 

DETROIT - A city councilman has proposed public soup kitchens to feed unemployed auto workers, with 200,000 now out of work... HARRISBURG, Pa. - Unemployment checks are now being mailed to 100,000 workers in the state of Pennsylvania . . . WASHINGTON D. C.—The Bureau of Employment Security reports claims for unemployment insurance increased two percent the week ended Jan. 12.

... SEATTLE-Mounting unemployment-in many cases permanent loss of jobs—is the reward being given northwest lumber workers for having made possible in 1951 the highest production and fattest profits in the long history of the industry.

### **Help Heart Fund**

A \$50 contribution was voted to the Heart Fund Committee of Schenectady County by the Local 301 executive board.

The contribution will aid in fighting heart disease, the leading cause of death and disability in the nation. Last year in Schenectady, 338 were killed by heart disease.

# Bldg. 60 Workers Lambast IUE's irresponsibility

A group of workers in Bldg. 60 think the record should be set. straight on some IUE shenannigans in their section.

It seems that a spray painter, when his work was slack, was transferred into their unit immediately after two of their group had been transferred out because of slack work.

Since this was a contract violaction of seniority, the Union arranged that the spray painter be transferred elsewhere at a rate comparable to his own job.

Shortly after an IUE leaflet was handed out. In it the IUE insisted the Union's contract should not have been enforced. IUE also revealed, for the first time to anyone's knowledge, that the spray painter was an officer of the pintsized group IUE still has around in Schenectady.

The Bldg. 60 workers expressed anger that anyone should want their contract set aside, which they'd fought so many years to ge They point out that it's this kind of irresponsible conduct by IUE that has reduced its ranks in Schenectady to phone-booth-size - and why IUE members throughout the country are saying: "We've had enough."

### Thousands of grievances are handled by UE Local 301 each year at all levels from the steward up to final appeal in New York City. To keep members posted, we shall each week list some of the grievances that have not been settled at the steward-foreman level and have been referred to the executive board-management level.

Bldg. 10: A group of L inspectpaint fumes from the large motor ors in special metals request a reand generator area, which causes a valuation to K, claiming their work health hazard, is demanded by is comparable. three groups in screw machine dept. Foremen Roberts, Steward Bldg. 17: Albert Calpin, punch and Burch have failed to act after press, requests payment for extra

ON THE JOB

hour of work performed, Oct. 13, repeated requests. 1951, on job 223-5211-53045700F More heat is demanded by a

> group in IC. Adequate prices are demanded by groups in first, second and third shifts in large motor and generator. They charge prices don't allow for pull-out, are consistently being made up to the A.E.R., with result they work in effect on planned day work.

Bldg. 77: O. De Pasquale, chemical, requests he have chance for opening as resin maker on third shift, as he has proved he is qualified for job by doing the work in the past as spare man.

Bldg. 89: W. Wasserbach, control, claims he was laid off in violation of contract on Jan. 24, 25, 29, 1952, and demands payment for lost time.

Bldg. 269: Samuel Gillett, electronics, requests rate of special

welder, at \$1.865, as his work qual-

ifies him. Bldg. 273: The same consideration for a second shift worker as a first is demanded by E. J. Bessette, who had a reasonable excuse for reporting late to work, but was refused time-and-a-half pay when he worked until 3:30 a.m.

Confined to grinding day-in-andday-out, J. M. Oliver asks opportunity to learn the whole job. Objections have been filed against Foreman M. Weidman's attitude.

A group that was sent home Jan. 29 after working one-and-a-

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA (UE) Local 301 and Rear

Published by the Editorial Committee Ass't Recording Secretary\_\_\_\_Frank D'Amico Troasurer Holon Quirini Vico-President Roy Schaffer Recording Secretary\_\_\_\_Rudy Rissland President \_\_\_\_James Cognetta Chief Shop Steward \_\_\_William Mastrianni Business Agent\_\_\_\_\_Leo Jandreau 301 LIBERTY ST SCHENECTADY 5, N. Y.

half hours were paid only for that amount of time at applicable premium pay. Since Article V-8-d of the UE contract provides there shall not be less than three hours pay on rate they worked, proper adjustment is demanded.

Cranemen on third shift demand investigation of unequal distribution of overtime, citing one night when 8 worked from first shift, 7 from second and only 4 from third. with no B men from third.

An extra allowance for clean up is demanded by Albert Buyce, an operator in nozzle partition section, when he is sent to do work in bucket section and has to clean his machine of all chips, with no payment or allowance for the extra work involved.

Holiday pay is demanded for Roy H. Cooper for Memorial Day, since it was management's error that he was laid off without regard seniority in May, 1950.

Lawrence Hillington requests he remain on second shift and not have to take a third shift because there is lack of work on second,

Al Morelli requests a more suitable job. He accepted a job in punch press on understanding he'd have to remain five months, but got no better job. Out of work for two months, he is now on a chipping job in turbine.

### A GE Fairy Tale

The Grapevine in the GE Works News was at it again last week, telling its favorite tale of how wonderful life can be without any unions around.

This time it told a story of how there were general increases before there was a UE, mentioning that GE dished out increases in 1933 and 1934 to the amount of five, 10 and 10 per-

What the Grapevine neglected to mention, some GE oldtimers pointed out, was that GE had in 1931 and 1932 handed out two 10 percent wage cuts, so the '34 and '35 increases only gave back what GE had taken away in the two previous

"There's only one thing wrong with the Grapevine's fairy tales about life without a union," said one oldtimer. "Nobody believes them."

### Bldg. 273 Third Shift Aids Two Brothers

Gordon Knowlton and John Dowd, two workers in the rotar and generator winding room in Bldg, 273, were trapped in a flash fire on Dec. 27, 1951, suffering acute second and third degree Tyrns on the face, arms and legs. Dowd is now home and Know! ton is still in Ellis Hospital. Both workers face a long stretch of not being able to work.

But fellow UE members on the third shift, led by Steward B. Quackenbush and EB Member Larry Gebo, have taken action to assure they won't suffer economic deprivation.

- Awarded only an inadequate \$35 a week as compensation, workers in the winding room on all three shifts have determined to add another \$25 a week as long as Dowd and Knowlton can't work.

To date \$1,006.75 has been col-

### EB Appoints '301' **Appeals Committee**

An Appeals Committee was set up by the newly elected '301' executive board on Monday, Feb. 11.

This committee will review all cases of members who have a complaint or grievance concerning the on. It will have one perman-member, the '301' recording secretary, with the Board appointnig three members, and two alternates at its first meeting each month to hear all cases during the

Those serving for the first month are: Joseph Alois, 273; Dewey Brashear, 89; Miles Moon, 85; Larry Gebo, 273; and Paul Rosa, 60.

# Stewards Elect New '301' Executive Board for 1952

The new UE Local 301 executive board for 1952 was elected Thursday, February 7. With balloting beginning at 11:30 p.m. on February 7, and continuing until 4 p.m. the following afternoon, stewards elected 34 board members.

John Saccoccio, chairman and Michael Rakvica, secretary, commended the 25 members of the '301' elections committee for their efficient handling of the poll.

Those elected to the board, and the buildings they represent, are: George Agius, 22, 23, 24; Webster Bathrick, 60 Test, 13, 43F, 61, 63, 258, 259, 265, (5, 37 electricians); Harry Bayliss, 52, 64, 66; Dewey Brashear, 81, 89; William Christman, 11, 18; Albert E. Davis. 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 37; Vincent De Lorenzo, 67, 69, 71, 73, 73A, 75, 77, 79, 234; James De Masseo, 43, 49, 61TG, 65; Anthony Esposito, 49 Fire Patrol, 53; Sidney Friedlander, 15, 17, 19; and Fay Hildreth, 59, 269,

Also, Millard Jeffes, 80, 84, 227; Henry Kaminski, 68, 72, 76, 238, 241; Joseph Kernaghan, 40,-42; Edward Le Bombard, 97, 109, 93 Rear; Rossiter Lighthall, 46, 48, 50, 60 Aeronautics & Ordnance; Elroy Marine, 57, 87, 91, 95-A.B.C. D., 99-A.B., 101, 105, 93 Front; Miles Moon, 85; John Oberlies, 12. 14, 16 Annex, 16, 29; Vincent Palazeke, 60, 107, 273 (Building Trades); Paul Rosa, 60; and Sam

Also, Harold D. Simpson, 10C, 25, 26, 28; Floyd Thomas, Campbell Ave. & Race Track; Anthony Villano, Alplaus, Flight Test, Malta, Knolls; William Stewart, first shift, 273, section one Broadway to south of building from east to west: William Linka, first shift, 273, section two west side of service bay to North Ave. to Broadway; and Anders A. Christensen, first shift, 273, section three east side of service bay from Broadway to front of building.

Also, Raiph Vitallo, second shift, 273; Joseph Alois, second shift, 273; Larry Gebo, third shift, 273 (also third shift member-at-large); Fred Pacelli, second shift memberat-large; and Sadie Iovinella, woman-at-large.





scene of day-long balloting on Thursday, February 7, as stewards voted for their choices to serve on the local's executive board in 1952. Seen above is Sal Maetta, election committee member, collecting the ballots of a group of Bldg. 273 stewards.

## Union's 1952 Standing Committees Appointed

The newly elected UE Local 301 executive board at its first meeting, Monday, February 11, appointed personnel for standing committees of the Union for 1952.

Appointments to committees in-

Constitution: Fay Hildreth, 59: George Walker, 73; Anthony Campiello, 52; George Quick, 14; Roy Lash, 273; Frank Emspak, 46; and Stanley Aldhous, 269.

Legislative: The entire Board serves as the Legislative Committee, with a subcommittee appointed consisting of: Dewey Brashear, 81; Wiliam Stewart, 273; William Christman, 18; and Larry Gebo.

Finance: | Helen | Quirini, 89; Miles Moon, 85; and Marshall White, '301' office manager:

House: Roy Schaffer, 42; James Cognetta, 52; Anders Christensen. 273; Henry Kaminski, 76; and William Mastrianni, 73A.

Fair Employment Practices: Rudy Rissland, 273; Rudy Ellis, 101; Sidney Friedlander, 17; Frank D'Amico, 40; Floyd Thomas, Campbell Ave.; and Sadie Iovenella, 81.

Editorial: The seven '301' offic-

Grievance: The '801' chief shop steward, recording secretary, business agent, together with the executive board member and steward

handling a particular grievance. Activities: The entire Board will serve on this committee.

### **State Action Sought** On Flood Problem

The case of the flooded basements in Rotterdam, Guilderland and Colonie had two more names added to it last week.

Residents in Woodlawn and Glenville reported that the backedup water situation, which has damaged thousands of homes and created a grave health hazard, has now reached their communities.

At the request of civic groups, which have been treated to a welter of publicity and plans and counter-plans by various public officials but little results since the Electrical News exposed the situation a month ago, UE Local 301 has requested Clifford McAyoy, UE District 3 and 4 legislative representative in Albany, to take steps that will establish New York state responsibility and action to alleviate the situation.