

## Price Committee Goes Into Action

Louis Slocum, organizer for the Farmers Union, is cooperating actively with Local 301 in plans for obtaining farm products for 301 to sell its members. The Sept. 16 membership meeting of 301 voted to buy food wholesale in an effort to fight skyrocketing prices.

After meeting with the 301 Executive Board to discuss prospects of getting supplies from farms, Slocum visited a farmers' cooperative at Kingston with Henry Busse of the 301 price committee. The trip showed the possibility of obtaining eggs and apples in the near future. Slocum and the committee were to get in touch next with the Spencer cooperative in Tioga County.

### Additions to Price Committee

The Executive Board has added James Cognetta, Stanley Bishop and Albert Davis to the price committee. Those previously named, beside Busse, were Leland Sisto and Marshall White. The group met Wednesday after this week's issue of EU News went to press.

In addition to working closely with the Farmers Union, the committee will seek cooperation of small grocers and other small store owners.

As Leo Jandreau, 301 business agent, said at the Sept. 16 membership meeting, "The little business men are being squeezed by the monopolies too. High prices are bad for them as well as for us. It's important that they understand what we are doing and why. If they understand, they'll cooperate."

### Congressional Investigation

Meanwhile a Congressional sub-committee investigating high prices heard labor and consumer representatives protest against mounting living costs at hearings in New York City. The committee set a strict limit on the number of CIO representatives it would hear.

Louis Hollander, state CIO president, charged Big Business is running the country's economic affairs the same way a drunken driver handles a car.

The CIO pointed to huge profits of the food trusts. When a committee member said the committee didn't have power to subpoena the books of corporations, a union representative declared, "Then your committee is a fraud."

The CIO spokesmen asked for restoration of price controls, rationing, an excess profits tax, and end to speculation on the food and commodity exchanges, and higher minimum wages.

MAKE THE SHOP 100% UE

## Meet Three New Shop Stewards



Three new shop stewards taking oath of office at the Sept. 16 membership meeting of Local 301. Left to right, Emilio De Gasperis, Bldg. 24; Thelma Willey, Bldg. 73, and Joseph G. Sickinger, Bldg. 60. They were sworn in by George Walker, guide.

## It Was a Hot Case All the Way Round

Prompt action of Shop Steward S. Burns in Bldg. 60 caught a foreman so far off base that management quickly corrected his error, after pressure from the union office.

William Trull, an experienced layout man in the first shift, was ordered by Foreman Donald White to lay out a particular job Friday, Sept. 19. Trull told him the casting was too hot to work on, but White insisted that he proceed. Trull again refused and Steward Burns pointed out to the foreman that the casting was 270 degrees Fahrenheit at the coolest spot.

White's reply was to order Trull, "Either do the work or go home and don't come back till I send for you."

Burns immediately reported this clear-cut violation of the contract to the union office. Under the contract, there must be a week's notice of any disciplinary action. The union contacted Bldg. 41 at once about the case.

On Burns' advice, Trull reported for work as usual at 7 a.m. Monday. The foreman didn't appeal until 10 a.m. He told Trull he had had "a change of heart" and he would let him punch in then and there.

But management went a step further and agreed to the union's demand that Trull be paid from 7 a.m. to 10 too.

White recently was transferred to Bldg. 60 from Bldg. 273 where he had been foreman. As a result of his actions since appearing in Bldg. 60, sev-

## Eight Members Added To PAC Committee

The Executive Board has added the following active members of the legislative committee to the PAC committee: Fred Pacelli, Henry Kaminski, Joseph Krone, Frank MacDonald, Walter Plummer, William Templeton, George Walker and William Weber. The original members of the PAC committee are the union president, vice-president, business agent, recording secretary, treasurer and chief shop steward.

Any Board member who wants representation from his section on the committee can obtain it by submitting a name to the Board for appointment.

## Arbitration Is Asked In Lunch Hour Dispute

The Executive Board has voted to demand arbitration of the lunch hour discussion issue.

Shop Steward Roy Lash of Bldg. 60 was given a warning notice recently because he and a group of workers talked over the carboly speed-up situation while they ate their lunches together near the dart board in their building.

The company held that the discussion was a meeting on company property. Leo Jandreau, business agent, reported that James Burnison, company representative, refused to budge from this position in a conference in New York City.

eral written dockets have been handed in by Steward Burns. The cases are pending.

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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## Local 301 Campaign Starts Today For Registration and PAC Dollars

### Dollar and Sense Reasons For Supporting PAC Drive

#### Ten Years at GE under the Wagner Act

	1937	1947
Common labor .....	55c per hour	\$1.10 per hour
Toolmakers .....	\$1.08 per hour	\$1.75 per hour
Paid holidays .....	None	6
Call-in pay .....	None	4 hours
Reporting time .....	None	3 hours
Vacations .....	2 weeks after 5 years service	1 week after 1 year
		1 week 1 day—2 years
		1 week 2 days—3 years
		1 week 3 days—4 years
		2 weeks—5 years
		3 weeks—20 years
Night Bonus .....	5%	10%
Seniority .....	None	Service
Smoking permits .....	On no jobs	on almost all jobs
GE plants under the Union Contract	None	86

#### Three Months under the Taft-Hartley Act

Schenectady—Shift cut from 8 hours to 7½ hours in Turbine Division, with loss of 2½ hours' pay.

Speed-up with no increase in pay put into effect in Turbine Division.

Shop steward threatened with "drastic action" because men talk of shop dispute on their lunch hour.

Company refuses to arbitrate grievances as required by contract.

East Boston, Mass.—GE lamp plant fires three girls from inability to work in intense heat and humidity; holds threat of firing over 41 other girls in case.

Bloomfield, N. J.—GE plant takes time study with the planner performing the operation.

Ontario, Calif.—GE plant uses temporary lay-off clause to lay-off worker with five years' service and keep some with less than six months.

Memphis, Tenn.—Manager of GE plant, now being organized, writes every worker on company stationery that he "personally" sees no need for union.

The Executive Board of Local 301 has called for an intensive campaign for registration and for collecting voluntary dollar contributions for PAC, today through Saturday, Oct. 11.

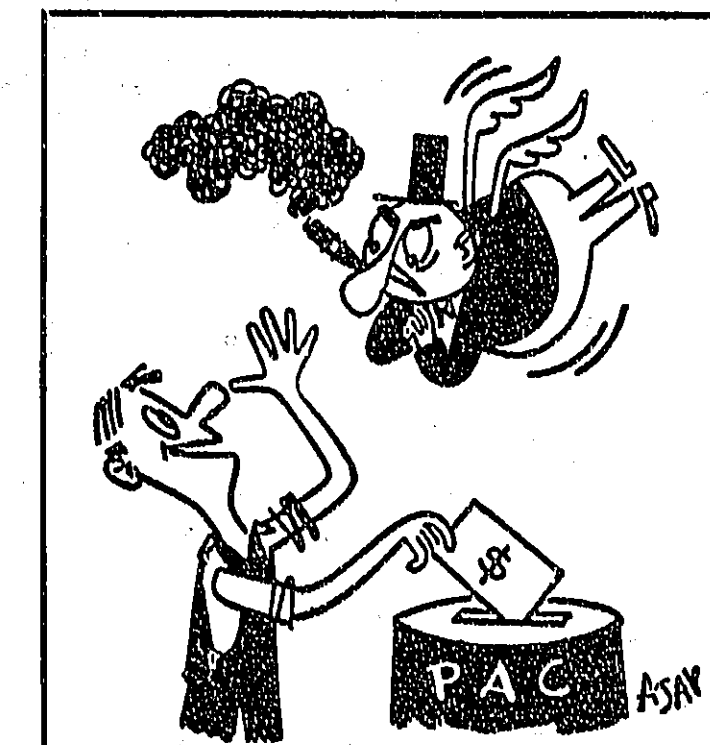
Board members will check frequently with the stewards in their sections on the progress they are making with pledge cards for registration and with their PAC collection books. Radio broadcasts and leaflets distribution are planned.

The campaign of 301 is in line with the unanimous action on PAC taken by the national UE convention last week. The convention voted:

"We call for all-out effort to raise the necessary funds for PAC, to enlist every UE member in this effort through his voluntary contribution and registration as a voter.

"Above all, we call for the creation of an independent political force answerable to no boss or machine, and responsible only to the will of the rank and file.

(Continued on Page 2)



PAC ain't got no angel—  
We'd rather do without one.  
Your dollars keep us in the fight—  
So, brother, how's about one?

GIVE \$1 TODAY TO PAC

KEEP THE PAC DOLLARS ROLLING

## Officers Relected By UE Convention

The largest UE convention in the union's history relected Albert J. Fitzgerald as president; Julius Emspak as secretary-treasurer, and James J. Matles as director of organization by record-breaking votes last week at Boston, Mass.

Brother Fitzgerald, who comes from Local 201, Lynn, defeated Harry Block of Philadelphia by 3,941 to 493. Brother Emspak a delegate from Local 301, defeated James Click of St. Louis by a vote of 3,872 to 587, and Brother Matles, Local 475 New York City, defeated Bart Enright of Jersey City, 3953 to 504.

### PAC Resolution

Early in the convention, the nearly 1,000 delegates unanimously voted in favor of intense PAC drives throughout UE locals. (See story on page 1).

The convention revised and strengthened the minimum requirements for UE contracts.

Delegates from all parts of the country took the floor to discuss the effects of the Taft-Hartley bill and the get-tough-with-labor attitude of management.

The convention passed three resolutions on the Taft-Hartley law by an overwhelming vote.

One resolution called for repeal of the law and supported the General Executive Board policy that UE shall not on its own initiative submit any issue "to the employer agency known as the Taft-Hartley Board."

The second resolution called for an immediate and intensified organizing drive and for consolidation of the union. The third resolution called for protecting the right to strike.

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Published by the Editorial Committee  
William Templeton, Chairman  
Mary McCartin, Secretary  
Willard Kuschel, Victor Pasche  
Leland Sisto  
Editorial Office - Electrical Union News  
301 Liberty St. - Schenectady, N. Y.  
Telephone 3-1386  
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By a vote of 3,823 to 596, the convention called for the "factionalist clique" calling itself "UE Members for Democratic Action" to dissolve.

The resolution stated that the clique "was originated, is directed and receives financial support from outside the union."



Julius Emspak



James Matles

The convention called upon UE members, "to prevent this faction from using the funds of local treasuries, to refuse all financial or other support to them, to repudiate them and drive them out of leadership, and, if they persist in their disruption, to drive them out of the Union."

Further information on the UE convention actions and resolutions will be printed in next week's EU News.

## Local 301 Starts Campaign For Registration, PAC Dollars

(Continued from Page 1)

"Wherever the major parties fail to bring forth candidates who will act and fight on behalf of the people, we shall use the independent political force we are building to support independent progressive candidates."

Jack Kroll, national CIO-PAC director, told the convention a vigorous PAC is essential to the fight against the high cost of living.

"When we speak of high prices," he said, "we necessarily must speak of high profits. They go hand in hand."

"The plain and simple fact is that American business is squeezing American workers and consumers out of every penny they lay their hands on. . . ."

The drive for greater and greater profits, the lust for power, is in the process of sending the nation on another spinning joy-ride which will end in the same crash—depression. Something must be done to check this inflation binge. That something is immediate restoration of price controls."

## Local 301 Orders 1500 Dozen Eggs

The 301 Price Committee has ordered 50 cases of strictly fresh, medium size eggs from the Spencer Cooperative Society, a farmers' cooperative at Spencer, Tioga County. Delivery is expected next week.

As each case contains 30 dozen eggs, there will be 1500 dozen eggs available for union members to buy at cost (including transportation expenses). The classification "strictly fresh" means the eggs will be better than Grade A ones sold in Schenectady. The price will be based on the day of delivery.

Shop stewards will notify union members when the eggs arrive. Present arrangements are for the crates to be sold in 301 hall.

James Cognetta has been elected chairman of the committee and Henry Busse, secretary. Other members are Marshall White, Leland Sisto, Stanley Bishop and Albert Davis.

The committee will concentrate on securing one or two other staples as soon as possible, probably potatoes and apples. If the response of the members to the first shipments of food shows enough interest, the committee plans to buy a wider variety. Only foods on which a substantial saving can be made will be handled.



James Cognetta



Stanley Bishop

An investigation is being made into the possibility of obtaining canned goods.

To fight soaring food prices, the Local 301 membership meeting Sept. 16 voted to buy food products wholesale to sell the members at cost.

## Workers from Turbine Division Attending Meeting



Cross-section of a Turbine Division meeting last week at 301 hall. The workers again said "No" to company requests that they work overtime. They voted to continue refusing overtime until the eight hour day is restored.



## Pasche Debates Against T-H Law

It is the men and women in the shops, not the labor leaders, who already have begun to feel the bad effects of the Taft-Hartley law, Victor Pasche, assistant to the business agent of 301, told the Schenectady County Bar Association at its monthly meeting last week.

The talk was part of a debate on the Taft-Hartley law, in which William D. Smith, a lawyer, argued the Taft-Hartley law was good.

Smith said that the only opposition to the new law came from labor leaders, not the union members.

Pasche pointed out that it was the Turbine workers who had their shift cut from 8 to 7 1/2 hours, and that it was the workers who suffered when the company refused to submit legitimate grievances to arbitration, as required by the contract. He pointed to the language of the law itself to show how it violates civil rights and strengthens employers in fighting workers and preventing unorganized workers from forming unions.

Pasche declared that the Taft-Hartley law came out of the same mold as the Taft "Eat Less" program, because a huge propaganda campaign of lies by the National Association of Manufacturers had smashed price control and put over the Taft-Hartley law. He said that while the propaganda drive sought to make the question one of "Communism," the real issue was a drive by Big Business for complete power over the nation, a drive which threatens to bring depression and the destruction of American democracy.

## Why PAC?

The General Electric Co. and other huge corporations learned the value of political action years ago. They have the National Association of Manufacturers and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce to lobby for them in Washington.

Big Business spent millions of dollars to see that the kind of Congress they wanted was elected. Their Congress removed price controls and sent the cost of living skyhigh. It passed the Taft-Hartley law to smash unions. It killed public housing and health programs and all efforts to extend Social Security.

Unions don't have that kind of money, but they have votes if they organize to use them. PAC is the workers' organization to make their votes count.

Senator Taft says, "Eat less." PAC says, "Get prices down."

## PAC Money

Another shop steward to turn in a completed PAC book is Pete Monzo, Bldg. 285. He turned over his \$25 this week.

In answer to indirect smears by Smith against the UE and Local 301, Pasche pointed out that Local 301 conducts all its membership meetings with newspaper reporters present, while even the bar association has closed business sessions, and that Local 301's financial statements are distributed to all the members at the meetings.

The Gazette story the next day thoroughly distorted the debate, quoting words and statements the speakers never made. All the distortions were slanted against the union side of the debate.

## Turbine Group Again Turns Down Overtime

By an almost unanimous vote, after thorough discussions, the Turbine Division workers in three shift meetings last week answered the letter from W. E. Sauppe, superintendent, with a decision to stand fast on the refusal to work overtime because of the 7 1/2-hour shift.

The members also voted to answer Sauppe's letter with individual replies telling him he would not need to ask them to work overtime if the company would give them the eight-hour day again. They will accept overtime if the issue is settled, they said. The letter from the workers urged the company to settle the dispute with the union instead of trying to by-pass it by writing to individuals.

The union followed up the membership action by suggesting to Louis Male, general superintendent of the works, that there be a meeting in a further effort to solve the dispute. At first Male said he favored such a meeting, but later he told Business Agent Leo Jandrcu that he felt the matter was at the national level and was no longer a local issue.

Sauppe's letter admitted that the company had been hit badly by the refusal to work overtime. The members' reply said "As for your complaint about losing business, why did you not think of that when we asked you to work out the matter?"

## Pensioners Meet

The UE-CIO 301 Pension Organization had its monthly meeting Wednesday at 301 Hall.