

Tangible Backing By the State Employees



STATE WORKERS JOINED THE PICKET LINE Monday morning when 4 huge buses carrying over a hundred employees of state hospitals and prisons in western New York stopped for a couple hours at the main gate. The caravan composed of members of four different locals of State County and Municipal Workers of America, CIO, was headed for Albany to demand that Governor Dewey and Assemblyman Oswald Heck support legislation which would give them time and a half for overtime, unemployment insurance coverage, a pension system and other improvements of their working conditions. The spokesman for the group, Leo Levinson, addressing the picket line stated that "Governor Dewey and your Assemblyman Oswald D. Heck are no friends of labor unless they are a friend of the state employees. Your fight against GE and our fight against Dewey is the same fight." After their tour of duty on the picket lines, many of the guests enjoyed doughnuts and coffee at the main gate kitchen before leaving on their way.

UE Vet Hero Fought Cops

"My God, this is what we just finished fighting against," was the reaction of servicemen back from Germany and the Pacific to the conduct of Philadelphia police in the GE strike there, William Hood, Purple Heart veteran and GE striker, told the Town Meeting at the Armory last Sunday.

Hood was one of the veterans who defended the American flag from the policemen's attack. He had a bandaged wrist as the result of the beating the police gave him and others who held the flag.

On the second day's police attack, Thursday, March 28, Hood said, the police charged the peaceful paraders, swinging clubs wildly, sending twenty to hospitals, and severely injuring a woman who was merely watching. He said the police had aroused the community's indignation, and that even school children in the "City of Brotherly Love" were giving the bluecoats the Nazi "Heil" and up-raised arm salute.

At the close of Hood's talk, the meeting adopted unanimously a resolution offered by Joseph Dominelli, chairman of the veterans' committee of Local 301, condemning the Philadelphia police conduct as "an effort to establish at home the storm troop or rule which American soldiers, sailors and marines fought and died to destroy."

Julius Emspak, national secretary-treasurer of the UE, pointed out that the attack on the marchers of February 28 had nothing to do with any injunction violation, because the marchers were seven blocks from the plant and were going to the City Hall. He said that the Philadelphia incident and the company's indifference to their employees' problems in negotiations showed a tendency on his part "to develop a pattern to that of Hitler in Germany, Spain, and certain Latin-American countries."

Pays For Day Off

An outstanding picket is George Walthousen of Building 40, who brings sugar to the line when he reports Saturdays, and buys cakes and jelly rolls for the boys. Recently he had to be off on his picket duty day, so he offered to hire someone in his stead. A volunteer took his place, and Walthousen donated one day's pay to the strike fund.

GE's "Carbaloy" Cartel Cost American Lives

How General Electric's agreement with the notorious Nazi Krupp firm to restrict production and raises prices of tungsten carbide held down the production of machine tools so that it was not until 1943 that this country's machine tool industry equalled the capacity of Germany's, Nixon said.

The indictment of GE was handed up in October 1941, but the latest information from Washington is that it will not be tried until the fall of 1946.

The charge against GE is contained in an indictment pending in Federal Court in New York, Nixon said. He declared that it was impossible to tell how many lives of American and Allied soldiers would have been spared if GE had not entered into the collusive agreement with Krupp.

Nixon said the Federal Court indictment charged that after GE entered the worldwide combination with Krupp and others to restrict the production of tungsten carbide, in 1928, its price in the United States went up from \$50 to \$453 a pound.

The collusive arrangements with Krupp were still being made in 1940, after the invasion by Hitler of Czechoslovakia, Poland, and France, Nixon said.

Two weeks ago a court in Pittsburgh rejected an injunction application by the Westinghouse Corporation.

David Scribner, UE general counsel, handled both cases for the union.

Do Your Full Part In the Strike

In order to bring about a settlement of the GE strike as soon as possible and on the best possible terms, it is necessary that ALL the strikers take part in the various activities, not just their picket detail, but also in the many different forms of work which make a strike effective and increase the pressure on the company.

Check your choice of volunteer work on the form below, tear it out, and mail it to UE-CIO Local 301, 301 Liberty Street, Schenectady 6, N. Y.

I volunteer for the following strike duty:

Check Neighborhood PAC work—house calls, distribution (in my home neighborhood).

Soliciting Contributions.

Kitchen duty.

Recreation and entertainment.

Veterans' problems.

Clerical work at the union hall.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Vets Put Heat On Capitals

Striking GE veterans, under the guidance of the Local 301 veterans' committee, did some heavy lobbying in both Washington and Albany during the past week.

The lobbying vets have been reporting on their experiences to the weekly meeting of 301 vets, every Friday night.

Last Friday Chairman Joseph Dominelli, Secretary Dewey Brashear, and Angelo Panella of the 301 Veterans' Committee returned from Washington where they conferred with Congressman Bernard Kearney of this district. They found him opposed to the Patman bill, which is favored strongly by the veterans. He said he favored a raise in the minimum wage law, but was unwilling to commit himself on the proposed 65-cent minimum wage law. He said he favored continuing OPA, but the veterans considered that by opposing subsidies, he was actually unwilling to preserve an effective OPA.

Kearney did, however, agree to work for removal of the provision in the GI Bill of Rights which disqualifies a striking vet from its benefits.

Fifty-seven vets from Locals 301 UE, Local 2054 Steel, Local 128 Steamfitters, AFL, went to Albany Monday in an unsuccessful effort to see Assembly Speaker Heck.

Fifty of them went back in a special bus and three cars Wednesday and saw Heck. He told them he was inclined to favor the \$250 bonus proposal payable in 1948, but would study the Issacson plan for an immediate \$300 bonus.

The vets met also with Assemblyman Fred Washburn of Hudson, chairman of the Labor and Industry, and found him very unfriendly to labor. They also had a sharp disagreement with Senator William F. Condon of Westchester, who wanted a referendum before agreeing to a bonus.

New Cards Next Week

Membership cards bearing a strike stamp for February, taking the place of the regular dues payment, are being prepared by the Local 301 office, and will be ready to issue to the strikers beginning next Tuesday.

Beginning Tuesday, strikers may call at the front office window at the hall and get their card. The big job about issuing the cards consists of sorting them and placing them in alphabetical order so they can be found when called for.

GE Loses Two Injunction Suits

The General Electric Company has "failed to make every reasonable effort to settle this dispute," Federal District Judge Luther M. Swygert in Hammond, Indiana, found this week in rejecting the company's plea for an injunction to limit picketing by the UE at GE plants in Fort Wayne and Decatur, Indiana.

The court added: "The requirement that the employed who seeks an injunction must make every reasonable effort to settle the dispute by negotiation is not fulfilled by his mere willingness to meet with his employees or their representatives."

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Conceal Facts To Smear UE

There has been frequent publicity from various cities to the effect that their public lighting system was in danger because the city could not obtain magnesia carbon sticks needed for street lights, as these sticks could be obtained only at the struck GE plant in Lynn.

Someone must have been eager to throw a little mud at the UE strike, for the fact is that the UE local at the Lynn plant has made arrangements to permit the carbon sticks to be withdrawn from the struck plant.

OFFERS AMBULANCE

Henry G. Smith, operator of the Mercy Ambulance Service has notified this paper that he is anxious to be of any assistance he can to union members as well as the organization. His service is available on call at any time

Electrical Union News

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

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Saturday Meeting To Seal Victory For the GE Workers



PRELIMINARY to the 18 1/2-cent offer by GE was the picketing agreement in which the company recognized the complete effectiveness of the UE's picket lines, and agreed that workers outside the striking group should enter the plant only upon proper check by union inspectors. Office and salaried workers streaming into the main gate Tuesday (above), showed their badges to the inspectors. Three of the union representatives line the sidewalk on the inside. They are Michael Bielecki, Bldg. 98a, Joseph Saccocio, Bldg. 52, and Gabriel Martino, Bldg. 60. An office worker is showing his badge to Martino. Two more UE inspectors have their back to the camera.

Organization of Clerical Imperative

Organization of GE office workers is now being pressed inside the plant by the UE Office Workers' Organizing Committee, backed by Local 301, with the aim of safeguarding the 18 1/2-cent raise won for all the workers by the strikers. The committee intends to set up an office workers' local of the UE here, as exist in other GE cities.

The committee points out that without a union the raise can be taken away either through a speed-up, or directly by notice to the unorganized workers, as happened twice in the thirties.

When the company made its first 10 percent offer, it conditioned this upon acceptance of the speed-up. This was defeated as far as the organized workers were concerned, but no such guarantee exists now for the salaried workers.

Office workers can protect their raise only by following in the footsteps of the rank and file.

Be Sure To Register Now

This is a last reminder to all GE strikers to register this week for unemployment insurance, if they have not yet done so.

It may take a little while before the plant is in full operation. Some strikers may lose a week or more unemployment insurance pay if they fail to register this week.

Victory Message From Jandreau

A Statement by Leo Jandreau

Saturday you will undoubtedly ratify the victory you have won through eight weeks of courageous and united struggle on the picket lines. You have already recognized it as a victory not only for the strikers, but for the whole community and for the preservation of democracy in our land.

You, by your unity and determination, won the fight. There were other important factors—the strike was called only after careful preparation and after all means of peaceful settlement had been patiently exhausted. The strike was carefully co-ordinated nationally by our general officers, President Albert J. Fitzgerald, Secretary-Treasurer Julius Emspak, and Director of Organization James J. Matles. We owe thanks to the many prominent citizens who backed us nationally, to the efforts of the federal mediators, and to Philip Murray, president of the CIO, for his part in helping Charles E. Wilson see the need of meeting the national wage pattern.

Community support was a powerful feature of this strike all over the country. It was outstanding in Schenectady, and helped defeat all moves to attack the strike from the outside. The support of large groups of GE salaried workers was a big factor in defeating strike breaking moves. But after all contributing factors are considered, let us remember that the main factor was the solidarity of the workers. All efforts to split them or undermine their morale failed. This was true all over the country. The spirit of the Schenectady workers, their united stand against all efforts to provoke trouble, makes them unbeatable.

We now turn to the job ahead as we return to our work in the plant. We have to consolidate the victory, to see to it that all workers get their full rights, and to complete enrollment of every employee under contract. We have to help the office workers organize, so that they can take their rightful place with us in improving conditions in the plant. We have to help the Alco strikers and the Transport workers win their just wage and contract demands.

We have to use our experiences in the strike to discharge our responsibilities to the community, in fighting for the welfare of all, for price control, for the election of true servants of the people, for the building of a genuine people's political action movement in cooperation with all of labor, with the whole community. We must play our part in the fight to preserve democracy at home and prevent another world war.

We have learned the lesson of the strike victory. We shall go forward—UNITED.

Ratification of the strike victory, scheduled for Saturday at meetings of GE locals here and all over the United States, will bring the first successful strike against GE in its history to a close after almost nine weeks of hard fighting.

The strikers will begin returning to work Monday with an 18 1/2-cent raise. All will be called back without discrimination, although how quickly they will be called will depend on the necessary preparations in the plant. Watch the papers for announcements.

Picketing of the plant and checking of non-production workers continued after the announcement of the settlement offer, as well as today, without change in routine, but the pickets and inspectors carried on in a holiday spirit. They were very conscious that "Well, we won!"

There was a mild demonstration at the union hall when Leo Jandreau phoned from New York at 7:10 Wednesday night and announced that the company had offered the 18 1/2 cent raise in line with the national pattern, and other acceptable conditions. Bill Mastriani, picket chairman, was hoisted to pickets' shoulders.

Approval of the agreement by tomorrow's meetings was recommended unanimously by the UE-General Electric Conference Board, consisting of representatives of the various GE locals, at a meeting in New York yesterday.

The complete offer includes: The 18 1/2-cent raise to all, effective Monday.

Retrospective pay of ten cents or 10 percent for all work since January 1.

All strikers will be called back without discrimination.

Old contract extended to July 1, pending negotiation and possible arbitration of disputed issues.

Wage increase to be subject to approval by Wage Stabilization Board (which is a matter of routine in case like this) and to be acted on by all locals Saturday.

The company's offer in line with the wage pattern came Wednesday evening in the third day of direct negotiations. Earlier in the day Charles E. Wilson had talked in Miami with Philip Murray, CIO President, and Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel.

The union bargaining committee was headed by the national officers, and included eight delegates from GE locals including Jandreau, Jandreau, President Andrew Peterson, and Edward Wallingford of the 801 executive board attended the GE conference board meeting.

A statement by Jandreau to the membership appears elsewhere on this page.

ORIGINAL TORN

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

United Electrical & Machine Workers of America, CIO
Schenectady GE Local 301

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Mrs. Roosevelt, Others Support the Strike Fund

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, James Roosevelt, eldest son of FDR, and seven United States senators head a list of 53 persons, prominent nationally in many walks of life, who have joined a newly-formed board which will serve in an advisory capacity to the National Citizens' Emergency Relief Committee to Aid Strikers' Families.

The committee is raising funds from the public, to feed the families of the nearly one million American workers on strike. The funds will be allocated to the various striking groups according to needs, as presented by their international unions.

From public life the board members include United States Senators Claude Pepper, Warren G. Magnuson, Hugh B. Mitchell, James M. Mead, Joseph F. Guffey, Francis J. Myers, and Robert M. LaFollette, Jr., former Governor Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania and Mrs. Pinchot, former Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York, former Ambassador Joseph E. Davies, Attorney-General Robert W. Kenny of California, Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, Judge William Hastie, and Colonel Evans Carlson, famed leader of the Makin Island raiders, better-known as Carlson's raiders.

Two noted clergymen, Bishop Francis J. McConnell and the Right Rev. Edward L. Parsons also have agreed to serve.

Representing farmers on the board are James G. Patton, president of the National Farmers' Union, and Aubrey Williams - of the same organization.

Others on the board include Thomas Mann, Dr. Ernest P. Boas, William Rose Bonet, Leonard Bernstein,



SERVING HOT DOGS, doughnuts and coffee to the largest group of pickets at the kitchen crew at the main gate picket headquarters. Behind the serving table are, from left to right, Sadie Iovinelli of the office force, Salvatore Albert of Building 84, Harmon Cartwright of Building 84, and Roger De Filippo of Building 73. To the right in front of the table on a cold day a picket warmed up on coffee and

Records History-Making Strike

THE MAN behind the pictures that tell you the story of the GE strike in one issue of this paper after another. Courtney Wright, more widely known as "Shorty", is a boring mill operator in Building 273, and has been an amateur photographer for years. But the strike has made him a regular staff news cameraman for this paper. He keeps the successive issues illustrated by snapping the various strike actions as they develop. And many more shots for which there is not enough room in the paper go into the union files and will be a permanent record of this historic fight for years to come.



Welfare

Applications by strikers for some form of assistance have increased in the last week. John Polak, chairman of the Strike Welfare Committee, reported to the captains and committeemen's meeting Tuesday night. He said about 30 to 35 were applying daily.

In view of the fact that the strikers will shortly be able to receive unemployment compensation, Polak said, the welfare committee has been following the practice, where the need of any one striker is not too great, of giving him assistance out of available funds rather than referring him to the County Welfare office.

The Strike Welfare office is open daily from 9 to 5, and from 9 to 3 on Saturdays, in Room 310 at 831 State Street.

Contributions Still Come

Week after week contributions to the GE strike fund continues to pour in from fraternal and national groups, as well as AFL and CIO unions.

Leading the gifts for the past week was one of \$200 from the Teamsters Joint Council, AFL, of Albany and vicinity, with the message that this was "to aid you in your just fight against the General Electric Company."

Local 76 of the United Textile Workers, AFL, of Rensselaer, sent in a collection taken at a dance attended also by members of Locals 124 and 520.

Schenectady Aerie No. 514, Fraternal Order of Eagles, gave \$50. Other donations were received from Division 1, Schenectady, Ancient Order of Hibernians, and Lodge Mt. Pleasant, Czechoslovak Society of America. There were additional contributions from the Amsterdam Joint Board, Textile Workers Union of America, CIO, and Local No. 80, State County and Municipal Workers, CIO, of Albany.

Investigates Philly Brutality

Philadelphia labor history was made last week when the US started its case in Federal District Court for an injunction to stop Philadelphia public officials from interfering with the rights of free speech and assembly of the GE strikers there and their supporters.

The UE began presenting witnesses to the extreme brutality used by Philadelphia in their attack on the peaceful protest parade of strikers on February 28.

And unlike some judges, Judge George A. Welsh indicated that he

(Continued on Page 3)

Strictly Impersonal

HOOK LINE AND SINKING
OF
TIME TO FISH OR CUT BAIT
by
Charlie (Try and Stop Me)
Wilson-Wilson

Here I am in my new temporary office at Grand Central Station. I moved up here from the Penn Station because it is getting to be Spring and I'll be nearer to Central Park. I promised to start negotiating this week, so I spent all the week-end reading "How to Make Friends and Influence People." On Sunday I was in front of a mirror here in the Station practicing the glad hand and brushing up on my best Brother-Can-You-Spare-A-Dime expressions. It is getting close to March 17th and I thought it best to have everything down Pat. Right after the 3:30 train came in on track 37, quite a crowd collected to watch me rehearsing. I was all wrapped up in myself and my blue-serve suit. The crowd broke up suddenly when I realized where I was, and I made an A-Line to the nearest telephone booth. An A-Line is quite a bit shorter than a B-Line, and has nothing to do with the 10-cent Line. I have been harping about for weeks. There I go again talking about harping, and it ain't even St. Patrick's Day yet.

Well, I called up one of my much used Vice-Presidents and asked him how things looked for the start of the negotiations. He said that spring must be here already as until now I had been stalling more than a 1926 Essex trying to run on kerosene. I told him to start the meetings off and that I thought I would be more dramatic if I made a "late entrance." Of course this was merely to cover up my embarrassment at having to negotiate at all. I told him that he could reach me during the meetings at the third phone booth from the left near the 42nd Street ramp.

So Monday morning I took up my seat near the phone booth and started my vigil. The phone rang three times. Two wrong numbers and a woman who insisted that I sell her a pair of nylons. I lit a cigar, one that I had carefully saved from one of last year's banquets. I sat and sat and smoked and sat. I am at the end of my rope now. Hope to have some better news for you next week.

Your worried President,
Charlie (Save Your Money)
Wilson-Wilson

Merely A Matter For the Record

What was GE doing about those electrodes that somebody wanted to accuse the UE strikers of holding up?

At least until a few days ago, according to Local 201 in Lynn, Mass., the company had ignored the request of the mayor of Syracuse and its Citizens' Committee to ask the union to release the electrodes needed for the Syracuse street lighting system.

The electrodes can be obtained at the Lynn GE plant only, and the Lynn UE decided it would release them whenever requested by the company. But when John Easton, business agent of Local 320 in Syracuse, came to Lynn on behalf of the mayor of Syracuse, he found the company had ignored the mayor's request.

Vets Meet Campbell

Continuing their lobbying activities, a joint sub-committee vets' committees of UE Local 301, Steel 2054, and AFL Steamfitters 128 met with State Senator Thomas Campbell of Schenectady, at his office in the Capitol, and reported back that he was generally evasive on issues of interest to vets. He is chairman of the military affairs committee of the State Senate, and said he was in favor of "anything for the vets," but he opposed the Isaacson bonus bill on constitutional grounds. The vets contend it is entirely constitutional. On housing, Campbell said he thought that was a federal problem, so he would not discuss it. The committee reported that most of his answers on legislation were "I can't say, I can't commit myself, I don't know."

Local 301 was represented on the sub-committee by Dewey Brashear and Sanford Archer, the Steamfitters by Steve Zdunzyk, and 2054 by Robert Northrop.

Investigates Philly Brutality

(Continued from Page 2) believed workers as well as corporations have the right to protection by courts. He declared he was going to "protect the rights of citizens under the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States . . . I'm telling you now that I am going through this matter and find out what has happened in Philadelphia."

OFFICE WORKERS!

UE has won a raise for you amounting to about \$400 a year. Join the Union now to protect that raise.

"Showed the Way" Petition For Vet's Bonus



A petition campaign calling upon the New York State Legislature to enact the Isaacson bill which would pay a state bonus of \$300 to veterans immediately, has been launched by the Veterans' Committee of UE Local 301 and Steel Local 2054, following upon action by the vets' meetings last Friday.

The campaign is being conducted from house to house, store to store, and on the streets. The vets report a ready and virtually unanimous response by the citizens they approach.

The petition reminds the legislators that in his message of January 5, 1944, Governor Dewey declared that the state surplus "belongs . . . to the men who are fighting this war. When they return it must be made available to meet the needs of that critical period."

Similar petitions in favor of the \$300 bonus Isaacson bill are being circulated by labor vet groups elsewhere.

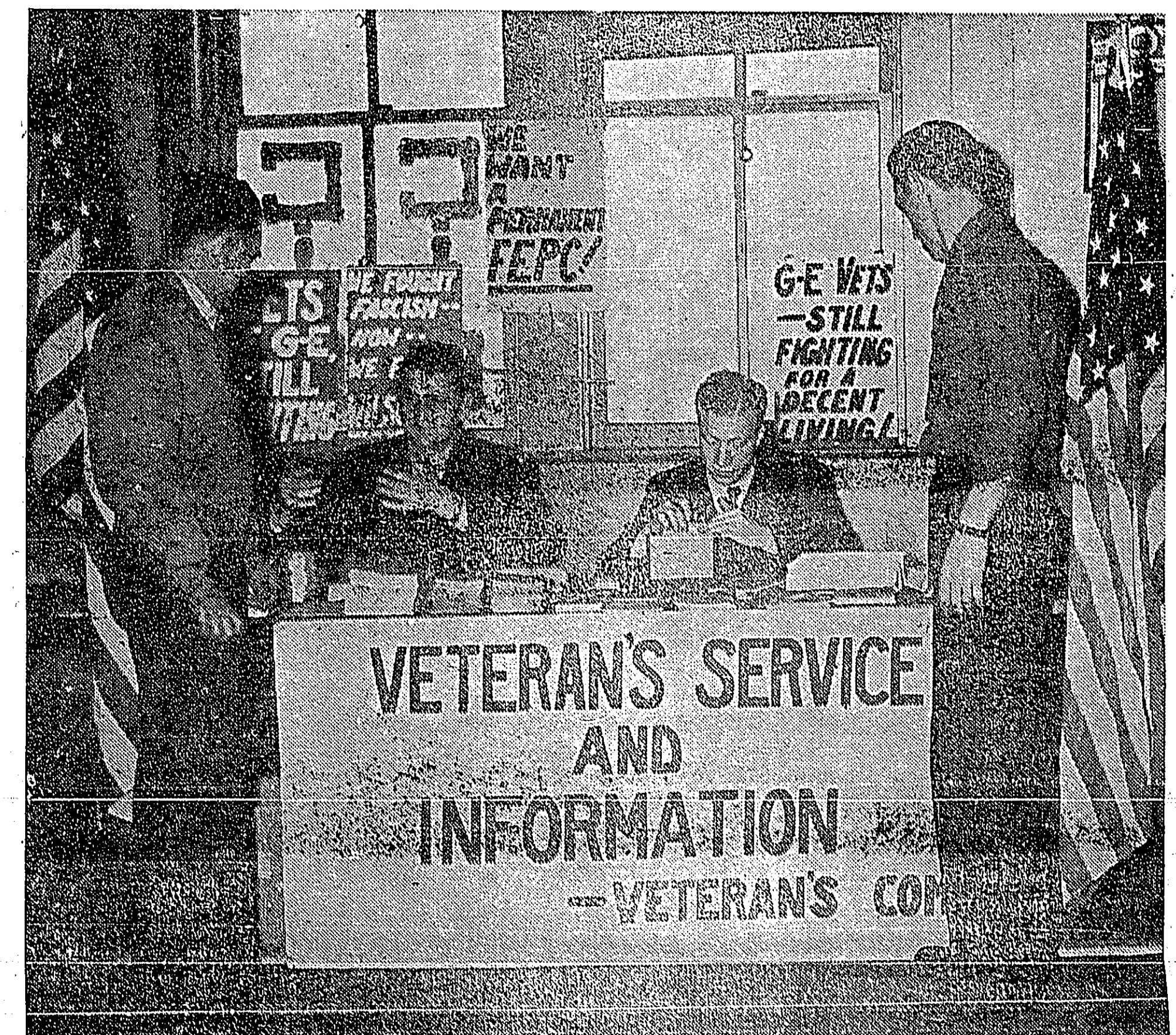
The Friday night vets' meeting of Local 301 also adopted a resolution calling upon President Harry S. Truman, U. S. Attorney-General Tom Clark, and Governor Thomas E. Dewey to investigate the killing of two Negro veterans by a policeman in Freeport, L. I.

to give them the benefit of our bitter experiences.

"I remember the strikes in GE back in 1919 to 1921 when there were a dozen small unions in the plant. This strike is much better. We lost strikes in the old days because the different small locals couldn't get together and they had differences among themselves. Today all the workers are on one side where they belong. When the workers are united and determined, they can't lose."

PREPARING TO RETIRE shortly after 33 years in the GE maintenance crew, Harry Mogaveroo, 62 years old, of Building 109, has been taking his walk on the main gate picket line every morning from 6 to 9, because, he says:

"We older men must show the way for the young workers. We had to fight for the eight-hour day and for all the improvements that have been won up to now. Younger men must carry on the fight, and it's up to us



LOCAL 301's VETERAN'S COMMITTEE answers the questions of returning servicemen on the many problems facing them. The Vets' Information Desk at the union hall, 301 Liberty Street, is manned by members of the committee daily from 9 to 5. Above, Dewey Brashear, secretary of the committee, and William Stella, vice-chairman, discuss questions presented by two vets.

ORIGINAL TORN