

WINNERS OF SPRING GIVEAWAY

The drawing for the prizes on the Local 301 Spring Giveaway took place last Monday at the Membership Meeting with Police Court Justice Louis Rinaldi doing the honors. The winners are as follows:

Ticket No.	Winner	Prize
35539	M. Cwirko R.F.D. #3, Ballston Spa, N.Y.	Power Lawn Mower
38475	A. Romano 1139 Palmer Ave., City	Man or Woman's Outfit
21704	L. J. Horinka R.D. Carman-Albany Rd.	Lawn Table, Umbrella, Chair
2470	P. Manger B-12, Bldg. 273	Fishing Rod & Reel
39271	J. H. Lontrato Bldg. 40	Portable Radio
37314	H. Lockwood Knolls #1	Lawn Chaise Lounge
28000	Leo Budney Bldg. 273	Flash Camera
39971	N. Erickson Bldg. 16	Electric Coffee Maker
11518	J. Wilson Bldg. 10A	Electric Frying Pan
34598	T. E. Burns Bldg. 46-4	Folding Aluminum Table
40995	G. English Bldg. 16	Coleman Camp Stove
2516	J. Flaherty B-9, Bldg. 273	Outdoor Portable Cooler
251	D. Wagschal Bldg. 273	Travel Alarm Clock
35579	S. Stiles Bldg. 10A Test	Permanent Wave
8873	Olive Alvarez 882 Strong St., City	Permanent Wave
43378	R. Batzinger 1242 Second Ave., City	Permanent Wave

Large Motor-Gen. Test Rates Upped

Make Offer on Turbine Case

(Continued from Page 1)

After months of arguing, investigating, threats and stoppages, the Large Motor-Generator Department heads agreed to increase the top test rates from 2.41½ to 2.48 and the 2.33 rate to 2.41½.

The Test Operators working in Bldgs. 16 and 60 filed a complaint through the Union that their job content had been changed with considerable responsibility added when the Department removed the Test Engineers from the job. As usual the Large Motor-Generator Dept. management refused to recognize the facts of the case and denied the request. The grievance was processed through all levels of the grievance procedure which gave the Test Operators the legal right to stop work.

An investigating committee composed of experienced Test Operators, members of Local 301, was set up by the Union and after investigating the duties of the jobs in question and comparing them with other test jobs in the plant, they agreed that the request for a wage increase was justified.

In a final meeting with management last Friday, a Union committee headed up by President James

was to apply the changes in rates that were made in the Assembly after test to the Assemblers before test. The department management finally agreed with the Union that the slight difference in both operations did not justify the difference in rates. Therefore, approximately 51 Assemblers were reclassified and received increases.

Cognetta negotiated the increases which are made retroactive to April 1st. The Test Operators' request was for a two step increase; however, they agreed to return to work based on the present wage offer and pending a meeting scheduled for June 26th, to discuss the additional step that was requested.

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.....Joseph Alois
Treasurer.....Joseph Whitbeck
Recording Secretary.....Larry Guba
Asst. Recording Secretary.....Allen E. Townsend
Chief Shop Steward.....William Mastriani
Business Agent.....Leo Jandrou

121 ERIE BLVD. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

Area Union Label Campaign Opens

A campaign opened last Monday in the Capital Area for the purpose of promoting the Union Label.

Last Monday at the Membership Meeting Mr. Silverman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers addressed the meeting, stressing the importance of every Union member buying Union-Made products. Also, the members present at the meeting had the opportunity to meet Marie Oppedisano, Queen of Union Label-Week. She is a Vice-President of a Troy Local of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. Mr. Silverman pointed out that a Union Label on a product is there to tell the consumer that the product is the result of skilled workmanship and was manufactured under decent working conditions.

The Union Label Campaign is the first campaign in the Capital District and is sponsored by the AFL and the CIO. Isadore Lubin, New York State Commissioner of Labor, spoke at a luncheon last Monday which acted as the start of the campaign. The luncheon was attended by several mayors in the Capital District. Organized Labor and Industry were well represented. Joseph Saccocio represented Local 301.

Meet on Bldg. 85 Wage Rates

Representatives of IUE Local 301 held a meeting with Motor Department representatives for the purpose of reviewing the present rates paid since the wage adjustment of 15% over 1 year ago. Production has increased 100% since the last wage increase.

The department which produces Tri-Clad Motors of misc. types is highly mechanized and was introduced as a day work job. The Union objected to incentive production for day rates which resulted in the previous increase.

The Union made a proposal to management which involved the following points:

1. The present rates should be increased substantially in line with the past 12 months increase in production.
2. Future increases in production should reflect automatically increases in paid rates.
3. Full employment should be guaranteed in light of increasing production schedules.

The management has asked for more time to consider the Union's proposition. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 27.



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LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

Vol. 2 — No. 26

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

July 20, 1956

UNION MEETING HALL CONTRACT AWARDED

The Building Committee of IUE Local 301 approved Monday, July 16 a general contract to Pioneer Construction Company of Schenectady, which was the lowest bidder.

The contract was awarded at a maximum cost of \$169,000.00, which includes demolition of part of the present building.

A complete new meeting hall of 100' x 125' will be erected with modern stage and dressing rooms that will accommodate standard theatrical back drops.

Toilet facilities and storage space will be provided on lower level of stage.

There will be a seating area of 100 square feet, which will provide a regulation basketball court, with a wooden floor.

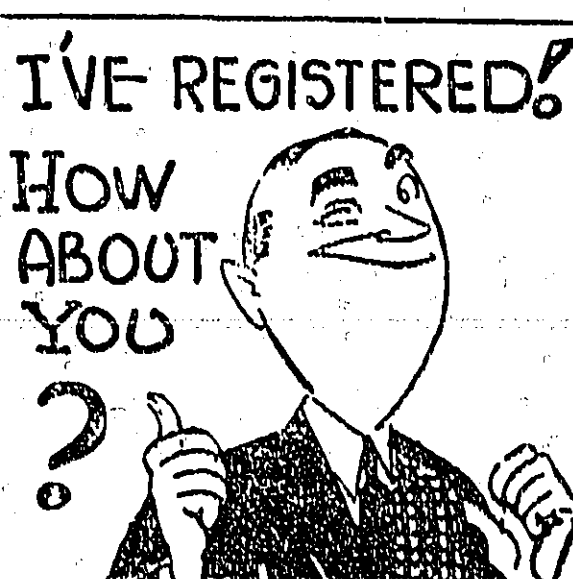
The new building will be made of laminated wood trusses, parts of the present foundation will be used in the new construction.

The meeting hall is the first stage of the general extensive plan for the union headquarters. As soon as funds are available the second stage will be started—the kitchen and banquet hall.

The third stage will call for the remodeling of the present two story structure to provide eight bowling alleys, offices and meeting rooms.

The building site will park nearly 100 cars, and the adjoining streets will afford additional parking facilities.

It is expected that the meeting hall will be completed in November.



Cost of Living On Increase

Under the IUE-GE contract it provides for an increase in rate for each 0.5% increase in the cost of living that exceeds the index for September 15, 1955, which was 114.9.

The index is computed and published by the Federal Department of Labor. The calculation of the cost of living under our agreement is made each three months, using the indexes for December, March, June and September.

The June index, which will be published at the end of July may show a 0.5% increase in the cost of living, inasmuch as the March report showed the index at 115.4.

If this will be the case an increase of 0.59% in rates will be made.

A report will be made in the Union paper when the Government releases the July report.

Trial Committee Reports

The Trial Committee reported their recommendations to the July membership meeting held at Union Headquarters last Monday.

As the result of a hearing held on July 10th, they found the defendant, H. L. Harvey, Bldg. 16, (Test) guilty of charges made by his co-workers, and recommended he be expelled from the union.

The plaintiffs in this case were I. Perfetto, A. Foggia, T. Charsky and J. Ward.

The Trial Committee members were: J. Smith, A. Campriello, G. Peruzzi, Thomas McGrath and Arthur Herbert.

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Have You Given to C.O.P.E.?

C.O.P.E. is not a political party. It is the Committee on Political Education of the AFL-CIO, to advance and promote the general welfare of America, by political education and political activity.

Machine Operators Wanted at GE

According to Local Management there is a scarcity of experienced Boring Mill and Lathe operators. Management has indicated it will be necessary to hire new people through employment office to fill prospective job openings.

The Union has notified management that all experienced Lathe and Boring Mill operators who are working on other occupations, should be given first opportunity to fill these jobs. Likewise, upgrading of employees with service presently working on related jobs, of lower job value, and where the employee can learn the higher rated job requirements with incidental training should have preference over any new employee.

The Union sent communications to members of the Executive Board requesting the Shop Stewards to inquire in their respective groups for eligible candidates.

Some names have been referred to the Union office, however, not enough information has accompanied the candidate's name.

We need to know the following information:

1. Name and Service.
2. Indicate Boring Mill or Lathe experience.
3. How long were you occupied on machine.
4. Job rate, was it P.W. or D.W.
5. Were you fully qualified?
6. What building did you work in?
7. Will you accept 2nd or 3rd shift?

Any member who is interested in these openings should make sure the above information is forwarded to the Union office.

Established at the first Constitutional Convention of the AFL-CIO in December 1955, C.O.P.E. is a merger of the AFL Labor's League for Political Education and the CIO Political Action Committee.

Objectives

One of the major tasks of C.O.P.E. is to encourage workers to register and vote.

The gains made at the bargaining table can be whittled down or wiped out by decisions of Congress, a State Legislature or a City Council. That is where the small but powerful forces of reactionary business groups is attempting to kill labor's efforts to achieve greater welfare and security.

Program

Briefly, the program of C.O.P.E. is to fight for Economic and Social Justice, which includes full employment, based on an economy in which our increasing productivity is matched by increasing consumer purchasing power.

It stands for sound and Fair Labor Relations, for better Education, Housing, Social Security, Unemployment Insurance, and Workmen's Compensation Benefits.

It stands for equal distribution of the tax burden, and protection of our National Resources, adequate health services, and extension of Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties to all our citizens.

Finances

Out of each dollar contributed to C.O.P.E. one half is used by local and State Committee on Political Education, the other half is used by National C.O.P.E. to aid worthy candidates for National offices.

If you have not contributed to C.O.P.E. see your Shop Steward or Executive Board member. Make sure you get a receipt for your donation.

THE LEGAL CORNER

(A Column Written by LEON NOVAK of Novak & Diamond, Attorneys)

173 Workers Paid \$125,000.00 for Injuries During First Six Months in 1956

Of the many hundreds of cases of injured workers who have been represented in their claims for compensation before the Workmen's Compensation Board, 173 of these workers were successful in obtaining cash payments for their injuries from G.E. During the first six months of this year the total amount paid to these workers amounted to \$124,749.97. To obtain these awards, the Union lawyer Leon Novak and his associate, Mr. Diamond, attended a total of 739 hearings. In addition to the approximately \$125,000 paid directly to the injured workers as cash compensation benefits, G.E. also paid all medical bills for these workers. The total amount paid for medical treatment is, of course, unknown but undoubtedly it exceeded the amount paid to the injured workers themselves.

The amounts paid to the injured workers ranged from as little as \$100.00 for a facial disfigurement to as high as \$9937.00 for a badly injured hand. Other payments were for injuries to the eyes, loss of hearing, crippling injury to hands, feet or fingers as well as lost time payments for inability to work due to injuries.

Many cases which are now still pending, will be completed in the last half of this year and compensation will be obtained for these workers.

In addition to the cases where workers received the cash payments mentioned here, there were other cases in which orders were issued against the G.E. for the benefit of injured workers requiring the Company to pay benefits to the injured workers for the rest of their lives owing to the fact that these workers are permanently incapacitated from working. Those who received benefits and then returned to work can reopen their cases at any time within eighteen years from the date of their accidents, if their physical condition takes a turn for the worse.

An injured worker is represented by the union's lawyer only when he, or someone in his behalf, comes to the lawyer's office in the Union Hall to report his case. There, the injured worker gives the lawyer the facts as to his injuries. A claim is filed for him with the Workmen's Compensation Board. Often, the lawyers have to confer with the worker's doctor to prepare the case for trial or to complete the

claim being made for benefits. After the claim is filed, the lawyer accompanies the injured worker to any court hearings which may follow. This service continues even after the union member may be forced to give up his employment on the theory that union members are entitled to this service.

Steelworkers Local Tries to Keep UE "Out"

Special to Labor's Daily — Buffalo, N.Y. — A local of the United Steelworkers of America has asked the area CIO Council to withhold approval of any merger plans which would give former leaders of the independent United Electrical Workers "any place" in the united labor movement in western New York.

A resolution to this effect was adopted by USWA Local 2268.

The resolution is aimed at former UE leaders who reportedly have joined the staff of the AFL-CIO's International Association of Machinists.

Elmira GE Vote IUE

More than 500 General Electric workers, members of UE Local 310, Elmira GE foundry, voted almost unanimously to affiliate with IUE.

A special membership meeting was called for the purpose of considering disaffiliation. UE representatives were invited along with representatives of IUE. The UE did not show up.

However, UE tried to stop the meeting by announcing there would not be a meeting. The members of the Elmira Foundry turned out and voted. They are now members of IUE.

NOTICE

There will only be one issue of the Union paper for July, due to the large number of members on vacation. The next issue of the Union paper will be on August 10th.

Must Prices Rise When Wages Rise?

(Reprint from Local 707 Cleveland)

Many workers ask what good is a wage increase when the companies raise their prices to more than cover the increase?

That's a good question and one that is not being faced up to publicly by people in or out of labor.

Unions feel justified in raising the standard of living of their workers. They point to record breaking profits by the large corporations. The first quarter profits of these large corporations in 1956 are running more than 50 per cent higher than profits at the same time two years ago.

Big Business argues it needs these enormous profits for further expansion. But in the past year we have seen this "Expansion" overdone in the auto industry, where excess enthusiasm, over expansion of credit, and over selling by the auto makers has created a serious economic problem for auto workers.

It appears now we face a fork in the road of our industrial economy. One road can carry us forward and up, the other backward and down.

The road down would be a recession and its accompanying misery. True, prices of articles would drop but it would be because fewer people have the money to buy these things. Labor believes in full employment and would fight this trend, as it has in the past, with all the resources at its command.

The other road involves enlightened leadership on the part of our Big Business leaders. Instead of

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Jandreau Speaks To Kiwanis Club

In speaking to the members of the Niskayuna Kiwanis Club, Leo Jandreau said, "The decentralization program of the General Electric has set back the peaceful and orderly procedures of resolving grievances satisfactorily."

The Business Agent went on to say, "We have too many small men on big jobs who are serving their time as apprentices in the field of Labor Relations, therefore the growing pains of these Freshmen have caused work stoppages and plenty of headaches for the union."

Decentralization has created autonomous department responsibility with department managers who have the authority to settle disputes arising in their departments, but up to the present time have elected to be significantly absent during grievance sessions. They choose to operate behind closed doors and pass the buck to one of their subordinates to directly handle all matters regardless of their importance.

The other phase of decentralization has resulted into department being transferred to small communities throughout the country.

To this aspect of Company Policy, Jandreau said, "It is being done for the sole purpose of fattening the Company's profits."

The Company moves to these towns only after they have been checked for favorable climate. The climate, Jandreau said, has nothing to do with weather conditions. It means how low is the community rate level and how anti-union are the local authorities and how dull is the labor movement.

Many questions were asked of the Business Agent, among these was the Westinghouse strike.

Jandreau said it was a disgrace for a corporation to deliberately try to break a union by forcing and prolonging a strike that lasted seven months. However, with the help of the American Labor Movement the Westinghouse Corporation failed to carry out its plan.

We are fortunate in Schenectady of only having one strike in the history of the union, which took place in 1946, and lasted 9 weeks.

The test of labor leaders today, and management representatives is to prevent strikes if it is at all possible to maintain respectful and reasonable compromises.

The meeting adjourned with giving the Business Agent a vote of thanks for his interesting speech.

It Pays to Belong to the Union

Working Wives Account for High Family Incomes During 1955

Recent headlines boasted that average family income in 1955 was \$5220 before taxes, up 3 per cent over 1954, and a new high. What they didn't say is that more and more married women are going into the labor market to help support their families, and that an income of \$5220 means there is more than one breadwinner.

Even the \$5220 picture is not as rosy as pictured. First, after taxes the figure drops to \$5000. Second, the average worker doesn't average anywhere near that. In May of 1955, the average take-home pay was \$71.95 for a worker with three dependents and \$64.62 for one with no dependents. This comes to \$3597 to \$3230 on a 50-week basis, or a good bit under that magic \$5000 figure.

How come the \$5000 figure? Well, for those statistics, "income" reported includes not only wages but dividends, interest and rent, and is the total income for all workers in the family.

The latest available statistics show that in 1954, median income for families with one wage earner was \$3814; with two earners, \$5000; with three or more, \$6669. (Median means as many families earned below that figure as above.)

So, \$5000 average family income means more than one wage earner, and the record shows that's what's been going on, at a faster and faster pace.

The number of working wives increased by 600,000 in 1954, to hit a new high of 11.8 million. The Bureau of the Census reported in December 1955 that "although the number of married women in the population has been rising steadily during the post-war period, population growth has accounted for only a small part of the labor force expansion. The major factor has been the sharp increase in the proportion of married women who participate in the labor force and assist in the support of the family, at least on a part-time basis."

The same report pointed out that "two-thirds of all families with incomes of between \$6000 and \$10,000 in 1954 had more than one earner." With only one earner in the family, only 34.6 percent had incomes of more than \$5000; with mama also working, the percentage went up to 54.7. Thus, median income for families where only pop works was \$4051 in 1954, against \$6336 when mama also was working.

In 1940 only 5 million married women had jobs. In April 1955 the figure was 11.8 million. By early fall of 1955 married women made up 31 percent of the working force. The Census Bureau reported for May 1956 an increase in the labor force of 2 million, and explained this "unusual" increase as occurring mostly in late 1955, "with working wives playing an important part in this development."

Bldg. 16: William Strain under Shop Steward A. Foggia is requesting an upgrade to the next step on Test, Class B, in view of his test experience.

Bldg. 16: The group of Assemblers - Bench - Collectors, who work in Shop Steward H. Williams' group, are requesting an increase in job rate to compensate for increased duties.

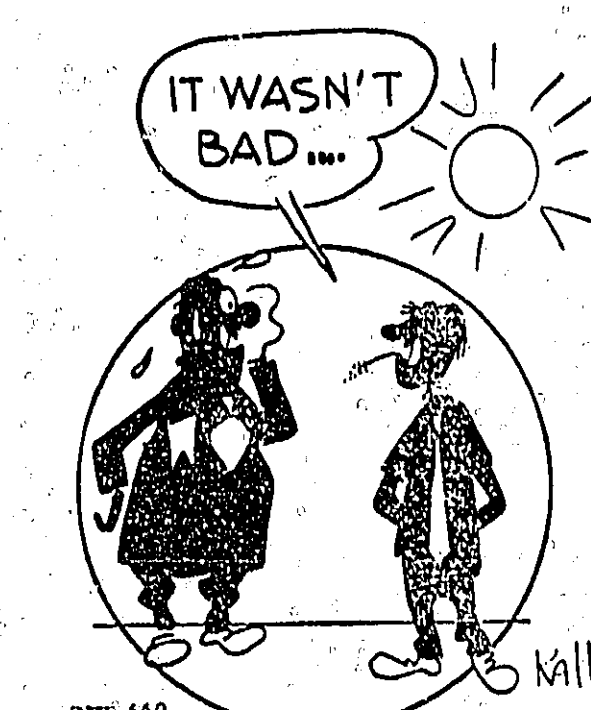
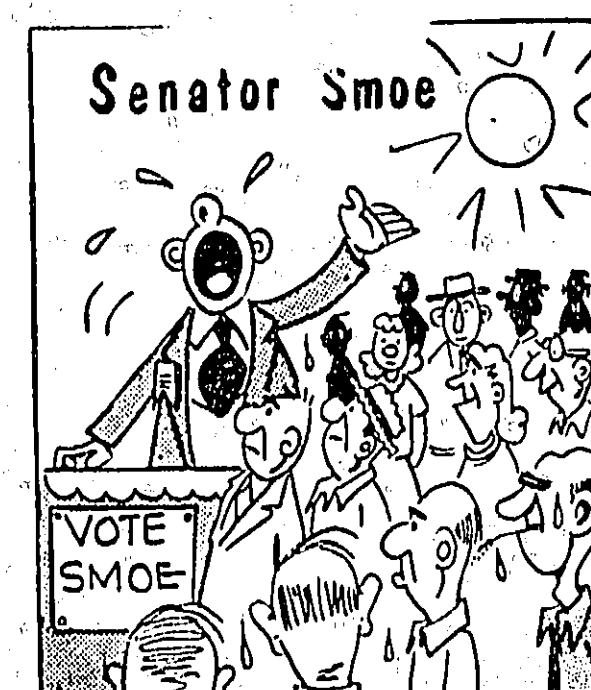
Big Fund Set for Medical Research

Washington — Congress went all out for research on cancer, heart and mental diseases in appropriating money for the fiscal year just started.

The National Institute of Health was voted \$184 million. This is \$86 million more than NIH had for the current fiscal year.

The Labor Department was voted \$380 million, most of which will go to state unemployment compensation programs.

The labor and welfare money bill was approved by the House and then by the Senate and sent to the White House.



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. 16: William Webster, who works in Shop Steward W. Kangas' group, feels that he was entitled to one of the openings that occurred on the 60" and other lathes. Union requests an investigation by the Company.

Bldg. 273: John A. Borst, under Shop Steward M. Dumas, is requesting that he be placed on a piece work job. Union requests the Company to look into this situation.

Bldg. 273: George Felker, working in Shop Steward D. Bray's section, is requesting that farm-out of cutter grinders be stopped as there are qualified men in the Division who are capable of doing this work.

Bldg. 12: The group under Shop Steward E. Smith are protesting loss of time spent in obtaining vouchers and getting prices corrected. Union requests Company correct this situation.

Bldg. 66: John Cavalancia and Frank Brua who work in Shop Steward J. Lumia's group protest that due to the shortage of help in their working area, the washrooms are being improperly serviced. The Union is requesting that more help be hired to correct the health hazard created by this situation.

Bldg. 16: William Strain under Shop Steward A. Foggia is requesting an upgrade to the next step on Test, Class B, in view of his test experience.

Bldg. 16: The group of Assemblers - Bench - Collectors, who work in Shop Steward H. Williams' group, are requesting an increase in job rate to compensate for increased duties.

Bldg. 16: H. Turcott, Jr., under Shop Steward J. Roca, is requesting transfer to former job which had a higher rate. Shorter service employees are now filling these openings.

Bldg. 16: George Trahan, who works in Shop Steward W. Bikowitz' group, is requesting a price adjustment on 477-3210EE Drg. 9780886-4 Adjusting Pin from the present price of .17 ea. to .30 ea.

Bldg. 18: The group working in Shop Steward S. Roberts' group demand that an undesirable condition created by management due to the I.B.M. voucher system be corrected. There is excessive lost time in the group due to this system.

Bldg. 50: George Volpe is protesting the unnecessary delay in getting the write-up on step ladder prices on Panel Pack. The Union is requesting that supervision correct this situation immediately.

Bldg. 50: Oscar Stolze, who has 3/8/40 service, has been reached on lack of work. The Union is requesting proper placement.

Bldg. 273: The group under Shop Steward H. Darrow is requesting that an opening for a Leader under Foreman McLane be filled by the longest service man.

Bldg. 273: H. C. Morris, who works in Shop Steward E. Belknap's group, is requesting an upgrading to Class B Toolmaker in view of his service and experience.

Bldg. 105: The group under Shop Steward J. De Georgia is protesting the Washroom Attendant being forced to work out of classification.

Bldg. 73A: A. Wincheski, who has approximately 27 years of serv-

ice, has been reached on lack of work. The Union requests proper placement on days as per agreement.

Bldg. 12: The group who work in Shop Steward E. Smith's section, are requesting a porter be assigned to this area to maintain working condition.

Bldg. 29: Sarah Podbielski in Shop Steward V. Lawya's group feels that the type and quality of work in this group is not being equalized fairly. Request Company investigate.

Bldg. 76: W. W. Peterson, Kiln Operator, and L. Davidson, Material Handler, working in Shop Steward H. Kaminski's group, are protesting their being assigned to duties not in their classification. Union requests management correct this situation.

Bldg. 18: Larry Ostrander, who works in Shop Steward A. Cotton's group, is requesting that his job be reviewed and properly rated since there have been extensive changes in the job with mise, set-ups and close tolerance work involved.

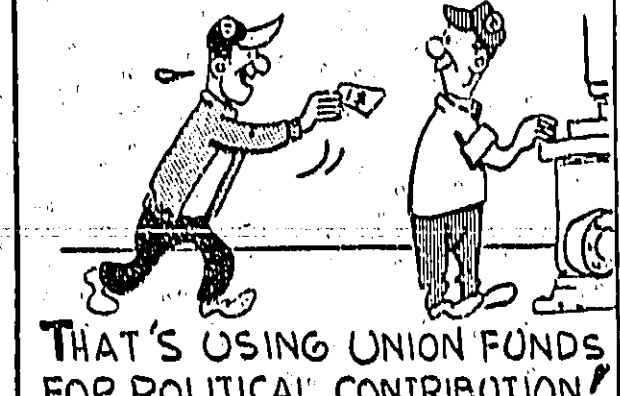


Double Standards

WHEN THE BIG BOSS WRITES A CHECK FOR A BLOCK OF TICKETS TO A \$100-A-PLATE GOP DINNER ...



BUT WHEN A UNION MEMBER MAKES A VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION OF ONE DOLLAR FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION ...



THAT'S USING UNION FUNDS FOR POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION!

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