

LOCAL 301 NEWS

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LABOR TO FIGHT FOR 35 HOUR WEEK

In a Labor Day address given by President George Meany at the Seattle World's Fair, he said "the AFL-CIO will fight for the 35 hour week, not because American workers are lazy, but because it would create five million more jobs in private industry when it is fully applied."

Meany goes on to say that "we are going to bargain with our employers for the shorter work week without reduction in pay because pay cuts would shrink purchasing power and eventually hurt employers as much as the workers."

Our national economy must create three million new jobs a year in the next 10 years in order to provide jobs for workers displaced as a result of automation and other technological changes, coupled with the post war population rise.

"The fate of freedom", said Meany, "depends on American ability to maintain its military and industrial superiority over the Soviet Union. This can only be accomplished by stepping up the pace of our economy and providing jobs for the millions of unemployed."

Labor and Industry cannot in itself solve the unemployment problem. Government action is needed to help provide the stimulus for an effective solution

Thus far Congress has failed to enact any Kennedy Administration programs that would spur the economy forward and, therefore, "Labor has been compelled to take whatever steps it can on its own initiative to make more jobs available to more people by spreading the amount of work that is available", Meany said.

A JOB WELL DONE

Thorough and comprehensive research on the part of a 2nd shift Shop Steward in Large Steam Turbine #273 wins a case for a Motor Repairman.

Some time ago a Motor Repairman complained to supervision that he was not being properly compensated for the work he was asked to perform. The foreman gave him the usual stock answer, no reason for an increase.

The Union member then contacted Shop Steward Polsun, informing him with the facts of the case.

The Shop Steward agreed with the member and immediately filed a formal docket asking for proper compensation.

Prior to a 2nd level meeting, Polsun conducted an exhaustive investigation delving into the skills required on the job. When the meeting was called, he was prepared and equipped to present indisputable facts. The Company was therefore obliged to correct their mistake.

The Motor Repairman will now receive a wage adjustment retroactive to the last Monday in July.

Shop Steward Polsun is to be commended for the manner in which he presented the case. Besides Polsun, the members of the Union's Negotiating Committee were: Board Member Weaver, Ass't. Recording Secretary Gunn and Chief Shop Steward Mangino.

R E M I N D E R

MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE CHANGED

The usual date of the September membership meetings will be postponed from the 3rd Monday to the 4th Monday of the month for September only.

The time will stay the same; 2nd shift, 1:30 p.m., and the 1st and 3rd shifts at 7:30 p.m.

PARTY SLATED FOR SHAMBO

A party in honor of John Shambo, President of IUE Local 301 and Democratic candidate for the New York State Assembly, will be held in the IUE Local 301 Auditorium on Saturday evening, September 29, 1962.

The affair has been organized by a committee made up of volunteers who are not only members of Organized Labor but also people who represent many groups in our community. The Committee has arranged to serve a buffet lunch catered by the Kelly Brothers. Also, there will be dancing from 9 to 12, to the music of Al Masters' Orchestra.

The "Kick-Off Party" is intended not only to get the campaign under way but also to provide an opportunity for John Shambo to present his views in the legislative field. The money received by the Committee from the sale of tickets will be used to pay for the rental of the Auditorium, the orchestra and the buffet. Any money realized after expenses have been paid will go into the Shambo for Assembly Campaign Fund. Pres. Shambo has received the endorsement from IUE Local 301 as well as Organized Labor in the community. The committee for the election of John Shambo to the N.Y. State Assembly expects to open an Headquarters Office in the near future.

UNITY PREDOMINATES AT STATE CONVENTION

The N.Y. State AFL-CIO held its 5th Annual Convention in New York City last Monday thru Wednesday

Considering the controversial issues coming before the Convention whereby the "pros and cons" were discussed at length, the Convention ended with a pledge that all Unions would work together in supporting the officers and the program for 1963.

Among the important issues considered was the consolidation of elected officers. Since the merger between the State Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations each group had two officers. There will be only two officers for the year 1963: Jim Corbett, President, formerly from AFL, and Louis Hollander, Secretary-Treasurer, formerly from CIO.

The Convention also approved an increase in the State Per Capita Tax in the amount of one cent, increasing the present Per Capita from 2¢ to 3¢. This was necessary because the State Organization ended their fiscal year with a deficit in their financial operations. Moreover, part of the increase will be used to step up Organized Labor's legislative activity in the State legislature during the next session.

The twenty-five Vice-Presidents were reelected, constituting the Executive Board, along with the two officers. The main office of the State AFL-CIO will be maintained in Albany. Over 100 Resolutions were divided among the convention committees, who considered their merits, making their reports to the general assembly of delegates. There were 2297 delegates and alternates at the Convention representing the Unions affiliated to the AFL-CIO in N. Y. State.

UNION WINS MERIT INCREASE FOR ERECTORS

It took formal grievances by Shop Steward DeGiovine to win a merit increase for two Erectors working on the 2nd shift in Bldg. 273.

Approximately one year ago, Erectors Roberti and Renzi received an increase going from top "B" to bottom "A". It is customary where employees are on merit for supervision to review at frequent intervals the work record of each worker with the expectation of advancing such employees. In the case of the two Erectors, it became apparent that their work records had not been reviewed since receiving their last increase one year ago.

Steward DeGiovine contacted MSO Connor and asked why the two Erectors had not received their next step increase. Connor remarked that he wanted to further observe their work. DeGiovine immediately filed a grievance for them, requesting the next step increase.

At the 2nd level meeting, the Union representatives pointed out to management that the two employees had worked in the erection group for years and had advanced themselves from "C" to "B" to "A". This the Union felt should be sufficient to warrant the increase. Upon hearing the Union's arguments, the Company came through with an increase for Roberti but refused one for Renzi. DeGiovine was forced to file another protest for Renzi, and the Company thereupon agreed to upgrade him, making his increase retroactive to the same date that Roberti's increase became effective.

Union representatives taking part in the negotiations other than DeGiovine were Board Member Clark and Chief Shop Steward Mangino.