Bridgeport, Conn.—Back to UE was the verdict of GE powerhouse workers in an NLRB election. The vote was 32 for UE, 1 for IUE-CIO and 3 for neither union. It was the first election in this GE plant since IUE-CIO split the local two years ago.

Berkeley, Cal. - International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union members in Cutter Laboratories defeated CIO Oil Union raiders by a vote of 301 to 111.

* * *

* * *

Fort Wayne, Ind.—Another eight cent increase on top of a general increase won Jan. 1 has been won by maintenance workers at Magnavox, members of UE Local 910.

* * *

San Francisco—A raid by CIO Oil Workers was defeated by members of the AFL Electrical Union among linemen and outside employees of the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. in northern California. The AFL got 5,072 votes to the CIO's 3.158.

Pittsburgh-UE Local 624 members have completed their quota of \$5 each for their Fighting Fund.

Newark, N. J. - Increases of \$3.50 to \$6.50 a week for plant department workers and \$3.50 to \$5 in the accounting department was won by 6,000 members of the New Jersey Telephone Workers after a one day strike against the New Jersey Telephone Co.

* * * Ashtabula, Ohio-UE Local 733 members at Ward Products Corp. have won a 11 cent an hour increase retroactive to Jan. 7 in their newly won two year contract.

New York-A three day strike against the Isbrandtsen Steamship Co. in four ports resulted in a new two year contract for members of the AFL Masters, Mates & Pilots.

* * *

Tonawanda, N. Y.—UE Local 306 members at Spaulding Fibre, Inc., after 10 weeks of negotiations, climaxed by a week of shop action, have won a 7½ cent wage package in a new one year contract.

* * *

* * * Washington-Wage Stabilization Board approval was given for a 19 cent an hour raise for 36,000 members of AFL Teamsters.

Congress Urged By UE To End **Wage Control**

The Defense Production Act, on the basis of economic data for 1950 -1951, is taking from those who have too little and giving to those who have much, UE Pres. Albert J. Fitzgerald has asserted in testimony submitted to the U.S. Senate and House Banking and Currency committees, which are now considering legislation to renew the act which set up the wage

Fitzgerald called for an end to wage control. the beginning of effective price control and a return to free collective bargaining between labor and manage. ment in any new legislation en-

acted. FITZGERALD The UE leadquoted government figures to show that average corporate profrose 7.5 percent from 1950 to to an annual rate of \$44 1/2 billion before taxes, while at the same time, he added:

"The spendable average weekly earnings of production workers in 1939 dollars show a decided drop from December. 1950 to December, 1951. A worker with three dependents, whose take-home pay in December of 1950 was worth \$33.77 in 1939 dollars, by December of 1951 had suffered a loss of 1.7 percent to \$3.19.

He asserted that "a year and a half of experience under the Defense Production Act has given indisputable evidence of the fact that the act has operated to the detriment of the welfare of the American people and that a program of absorbing "excess purchasing power" is absurb in the face of the fact there is growing unemployment in consumer industries because the workers don't have enough purchasing power to buy essentials for living.



SETTING A COURSE. UE leaders, who addressed the '301' Stewards Wage Conference last Monday, are seen above in an exchange of views following the main report delivered by UE Genl. Secy.-Treas. Julius Emspak. Seen l. to r. are: Leo Jandreau, '301' business agent; James J. Matles, UE Director of Organization and Emspak.

Stewards Chart Program To Change GE's 1% Tune

Continued from Page 1 explaining the facts and getting ready for the fight ahead.

Jandreau termed GE's offer an attempt "to scuttle collective bargaining" and "there's no limit as to how far they'll attempt to go

Leading Senator Hits Humphrey Hearings

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D, Minn.), who has been urging legislation that would have the government "select" unions for workers on the ground of barring so-called "communist unions," has been urged to drop his witch-hunt by a man who outranks him on his own

Humphrey is chairman of a subcommittee of the Senate Labor Committee, of which Sen. James E. Murray (D, Mont.) is chairman.

Murray last week, in a letter to a Mine, Mill & Smelter Worker Union member stated he had urged Humphrey to drop his hearings and pledged he would "contnine my efforts to prevent this unnecessary course."

The UE Steward's Dream

A man knocked at the Heavenly Gate,

His face was scarred and old::

"What have you done," St. Peter asked.

He stood before the man of fate.

For admission to the fold.

"To gain admission here"

"I've been a UE Steward," he said.

The pearly gates swung open wide, St. Peter touched the bell—

"For many and many a year."

"Come in and choose your harp," he said.

"You've had your share of hell."

-From the UE STEWARD

if we don't halt them." He blamed IUE-ClO's "escalator" approach to general wage increases, based on BLS figures, as playing into GE's hands and urged continued UE appeals to all GE workers for a common fight against GE. He laude the skilled craftsmen's demonstration in a recent snowstorm as showing the fighting spirit needed by all GE workers.

Emspak called GE's offer "actually an attack on this Union and all unions in the GE chain," and termed GE's "super-exploitation" of women, with a 39 cent gap in average wages between women and men, a threat to every male worker in GE.

He urged visits to congressmen during the Easter recess to ask repeal of the Defense Production Act, which set up the wage freeze. He said Sen. Humphrey's attempt to have the government "select" unions for workers, regardless of their choice, wasn't a far step from trying to set up "a one party government."

Matles declared that events have confirmed UE's position that the wage freeze was anti-labor and would eliminate collective bargaining—while the labor leaders who've participated with the bosses and politicians on the freeze are now after two years just "discovering" that it won't work. "To the co tent we now make progress," he said, "is the extent to which we unitedly fight every day to achieve our objectives," and "UE members know that their Union won't engage in any skullduggery with bosses or politicians, but will be an organization in which they can conduct, such a fight all the time."

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

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Friday, April 11, 1952



ROME, N. Y.—Workers at GLF Cooperative Service Inc. have voted for UE to represent them. The NLRB election margin was 8 to 2.

Portland, Ore.—Charging that employers are trying to provoke a lumber strike by refusing to even meet with the union, the CIO Woodworkers announced "they'll get strike action if that's what they want. Early returns on the strike vote ... show a 98 percent sentiment in favor of strike if no reasonable offers are made."

New York, N. Y.—UE Local 1227 members working at Wades-Kohinoor Co. have won an 111/2 cent an hour package increase.

* * *

San Francisco-15,000 AFL car penters in this area went on strike win a 15 cent increase, which would bring them to the \$2.60 an hour level already approved by the wage freeze board for other building trades workers.

Philadelphia — UE Local 155 members, working at F. C. Castelli Co., conducted a three week strike and won a 20 cent an hour increase for tool makers, 8 to 19 cents for all time workers, 5 cent base rate increase for piece workers, with old piece work rates increased by the same amount.

* * * Cincinnati-Hugo Ernst, president of the Hotel & Restaurant Workers, the AFL's fourth largest union, has asserted that "nobody, but NOBODY can 'win' an atomic war" and urged "collective bargaining" among nations to prevent a third world war.

* * * Wausau, Wisc .- The CIO Council, AFL Trades Council and Farmers Union have all taken newspaper advertisements to express their support of UE Local 1113 against the Marathon Electric Co. Hundreds of townspeople have turned out on the UE picketlines.

* * * Detroit—Members of UAW-CIO Local 3 at the Dodge plant have authorized the taking of a strike vote by 18,000 members to fight speed-up.

Setting the Pace

Leading the way in building a '301' Fighting Fund to have in readiness for any future fights with GE and defend the Union from any attacks are the following sections:

'301' Chief Shop Steward Wil liam Mastrianni reports 95 percent of his own group of 34 welders, spot welders and assemblymen in Bldg. 73A have paid up \$5 in full.

Steward Charles S. Scott, welded products in Bldg. 66, reports everyone but one is contributing towards his \$5 pledge.

Steward Julius Rispoli, spray and assemblying in Bldg. 73A, reports 90 percent paid up in full out of a group of over 20.

Steward Vincent DeLorenzo, a '301' board member in Bldg. 69, milling machine, reports 90 percent paid out of 15.

Sidney Friedlander, '301' board member, reports Bldgs. 15, 17 and 19 have upped their total from \$365 to \$454.

Electrician Stoppage Hits GE 'Outside Work' Abuses

Electricians stopped work Thursday afternoon, April 3, and stayed out the entire next day in protest over GE's violation of a local agreement on utilization of its skilled building trades craftsmen.

Elect '301' Delegates To UE Wage Parley

The '301' membership meeting on April 7 elected its delegates to attend the National UE Wage Conference in Buffalo, N. Y. on April-19, 20. Those elected were:

John Smith, Bldg. 273 (second shift); William Mastrianni, 73A; Ray Ellis, 273; Vincent Palazeke, 60; Charles Ferris, 63 and Helen Quirini, 81.

Also serving as delegates will be GE Conference Board members Leo Jandreau, business agent: James J. Cognetta, president and Fred Pac-



NEW STEWARDS. Newly elected shop stewards to replace vacancies are seen being sworn in at the '301' membership meeting, April 7, by '301' Chief Shop Steward William Mastrianni (right). New stewards are sworn in at each monthly membership meeting.

Ask Kearney Opposition To Wage Freeze Law

UE Local 301 is planning a visit to Congr. Patrick Kearney, at his Gloversville home, during the congressional Easter recess to urge his opposition to renewal of the Defense Production Act. '301' members have been saves the country for the few and urged to personally write like mes-

sages to Kearney. The '301' membership meeting, April 7, approved such action, after Business Agent Leo Jandreau pointed out that this law is the source of the problem of the wage

"I believe in defense and making our country strong and self-sustaining," declared Jandreau, "but this law in the name of 'defense'

not the many. While prices, profits and taxes go up—this law not only freezes wages, but eliminates free collective bargaining."

Pointing out that the law permits armament costs to be "taken out of the hides of the people," Jandreau said GE takes advantage of this law to offer only a one percent increase, which only proves "it's the source of our present bargaining troubles."

Displaying the same spirit of militancy that toolmakers and building trades craftsmen showed on March 19 when they staged an hour-long demonstration in a driving snowstorm in support of the skilled workers' demand for a 45 cent increase, the nearly 300 electricians only "temporarily" called off their action when top level meetings were scheduled at the Works Manager's level.

The point at isue is GE's agreement that electricians will be fully utilized before any workers are brought in on work let out to outside contractors. Purpose of this agreement was to create sufficient work for electricians so that lower rated workers could move to the top of their class in grade progression.

Electricians also point out that they have to maintain any new work that's installed. A lack of knowledge by outside workers who install such work many times makes it more difficult for them to maintáin it.

Also a burning issue is that hiring outside workers "to save money" by preventing overtime for GE's own electricians is a fallacy since, because their rates are lower than outside electricians, overtime would only amount to about the regular rate of the outside electricians.

The issue has been nearing a boiling point in recent months because GE has been letting more and more outside contracts. The GE "captive" electricians point out there's more than enough manpower among them for any work done to date-and that hiring outside electricians is a clear violation of the local agreement.

A meeting was held with A. C. Stevens, assistant to the Works Manager on Monday, April 7. A full investigation is being conducted, with another meeting set within a week with John Alexander, superintendent of grounds, buildings and general maintenance.

With GE, It's Spelled PAYtriotism

General Electric has just printed a pamphlet, written by Vice President Lemuel R. Boulware. In it Boulware tries to convince the government, through Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D, Minn.) an avowed foe of UE—that federal legislation should be passed that would "select" unions for workers regardless of their own

Boulware and GE are unhappy that GE workers in government supervised elections continue to vote for UE as their bargaining agent—because they know that UE has won conditions that far excel conditions in many other major industries.

What it adds up to is that on one hand GE is dissatisfied with "government" supervised democratic elections and on the other hand wants to use the "government" to help it get rid of a militant union that it would prefer not to bargain with.

This is nothing new for GE. Its record on many issues indicates it is willing to cynically use the government as a convenience to further its ends—a dollars and cents PAYtriotism. For in-

Take the Question of Pay Increases

For skilled workers, it's like this:

GE PAYS **Toolmakers** \$2.21

U. S. Government Recommended

What does GE do? It ignores this recommendation based on a survey by a Wage Stabilization Board panel last fall. GE won't even talk about it. But . . . on the other hand . . . when it comes to a demand for a general increase for its workers, GE tells the Union that it is sticking strictly to the government's wage freeze cost-of-living formula and offers a 1.36 percent increase, and will make it less if the government figure drops in April. Again . . . it's dollars and cents PAYtriotism.

Does the Same Apply to Profits?

There's no freeze on profits, as these figures show:

Profits Before Taxes \$415,617,000 370,424,000

After Taxes \$138,117,000 173,400,000

ASSETS

\$433,680,000

\$1,460,000,000

GE screams that net profits went down because of taxes, but the worker's "take-home" also went down "after" taxes. But GE Pres. Ralph J. Cordiner urges less taxes on corporations and more on the wage earner. Not mentioned is the fact that taxes pay GE plenty in its status as the largest holder of armaments contracts outside the aircraft industry. GE wants the "government" contracts but doesn't want to pay so much taxes to the government. Again . . . dollars and cents PAYtriotism.

Then Take The Women

The government in 1945 ruled that GE "exploited" women in its plants and proposed that GE increase their rates to eliminate

discrimination against women. What's the picture today?

Avg. straight time pay—all hourly women.....\$1.349 per hour Avg. earnings of women incentive workers...... 1.403 per hour Avg. earnings of women day workers...... 1.271 per hour

The gap between women and men's rates is slightly under 50 cents. On the one hand GE says it doesn't discriminate against women on rates. But . . . on the other hand s . . it ignores a "government" recommendation. Again ... dollars and cents PAYtriotism.

One Thing GE Doesn't Ignore

The Kentucky Employment Service admits unemployment around Louisville is the highest since November, 1950, with no immediate prospects of solution.

That's where GE is building a new plant ... where it intends to build all appliances eventually that "are too heavy to carry." GE intends to create 16,000 jobs here at the low prevailing wage rate, with lots of unemployed . . . jobs that are now done elsewhere at much higher rates of pay. The "government" built this plant for jet engines, with allocations of material for the building given by the "government."

GE is building and buying plants all over the country with big tax concessions it gets from the government and then gets work done in low wage areas that takes away higher paid jobs elsewhere or threatens higher rates.

On the one hand GE refused to bargain on eliminating geographical differentials, saying it isn't in the "government" wage freeze formula . . . but . . . on the other hand it is eligible for concessions on taxes to make possible the creation of geographical differentials to the tune of: harmon of

\$74,261,000

Again . . . dollars and cents PAYtriotism.

Then There's Charles E. Wilson

Charles E. Wilson resigned as GE president to take over as "assistant" president as Defense Mobilizer. He was in charge of handing out all the "government" contracts to big business, including GE. But . . . on the other hand . . . the minute the corporations—the steel industry . . . refuse to go along with the government freeze policies . . . Wilson resigns from the "government." Again . . . a dollar and cents PAYtriotism.

Another Kind of Patriotism

GE workers aren't fooled by this kind of PAYtriotism, where patriotism is something twisted to suit the company's convenience. They know, too, that true patriotism consists of achieving an ever richer life in a democratic society, with an ever-increasingly better

That's why they aren't going to accept a GE standard of PAYtriotism that twists and uses the government only to feather its nest , while expecting its workers to carry the burden.

GE will find that out in the weeks and months ahead as the militant actions of its workers compel it to change its tune on no bargaining for increases its workers have earned and deserved —

ON THE JOB

Bldg. 18: James Cantore, S&M motor, demands average earnings for 11 hours spent reworking a job under the specific instruction of AGF Marshall. Cantore did the job originally, hexing 36 bolts, on March 5 in 5½ hours and the job was spoiled because of lack of proper information and had to be

Bldg. 26: Dominick Fratine, A& OS, requests that porters be reclassified as material movemen, since supervision utilizes them for this work and only pays common laborer rate for the work.

Bldg. 28: Henry Antonelli, a B test operator, was promised by foreman that he'd receive his first step in classification within three months. Foreman denies this agreement. Adherence to the agreement and retroactive adjust- 1952.

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.

ment of pay is demanded. Bldg. 29: Sylvia A. Satas, mica, demands restoration of service date from date she was hired, minus usual deductions. Forelady Doberneck has intimated she will only do this when she considers her work satisfactory.

A group on the 40 inch mica tape machine, which has been in operation for more than six months, demands a time study to set up piece work prices.

Bldg. 50: Battery truck operators demand a correction of the situation where handymen are being loaned to other buildings, which compels them to do handymen's work. No handymen at all are on second shift. with battery truck operators doing both jobs. The condition has prevailed since Jan. 15,

Bldg. 52: The tool room in Bldg. 52 demands the same hours of work as the groups they service. They service welded products and large motor and generator in Bldgs. 52, 66, and 60 with jigs, fixtures, templates, tools, parts and all machine

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repairs. These groups work a con-

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301 LIBERTY ST	SCHENECTADY 5, N. Y.

siderable amount of overtime, while the tool room stays on 40 hours.

Bldg. 68: A group in porcelain demands piece work vouchers for each job. Failure to do this has resulted in workers not knowing s their rates and if and when they make out on a job.

Bldg. 68: D. Testado demands 11/2 hours pay for hours lost on a special price job through no fault of his. The planning card specified it be done with a parallel and vise and he was given instead a pair of vice jaws.

Bldg. 73A: A full time tool crib keeper is demanded for the second shift. The attendant was laid off, with his duties assigned to leader of the machine floor maintenance men on machine repair, in addition to their duties.

Bldg. 77: A group in chemical protests Foreman K. Sharke showing partiality to E. Oleschak. The foreman gives special consideration to Oleschak to make up lost time, while no other employee is given such special privileges.



Membership Cards

Quarterly membership cards for January, February and March were mailed to all Local 301 members this week. Anyone not receiving one has an incorrect address on record and should see his steward.

301's Fair Employment Practices Committee is seen above at a recent session discussing measures to ensure fair employment and root out discrimination. L. to r. are: Rudy Ellis, Bldg. 101; Charles E. Gibson, 50 (not a committee member, but presented a case to the committee); Frank D'Amico, 40; Helen Quirini, 81; Rudy Rissland, 273; Sadie Iovinelli, 81; Chairman Floyd Thomas, Campbell Ave.; and Secretary Sidney Friedlander, 17.

Cmpll. Ave. - Race Track Moves Grievance Log-Jam

The united action of Campbell Ave. - Race Track workers in "taming" their "horsewhip" General Foreman R. Robinson a couple of weeks ago has started breaking a whole log-jam of grievances that division super-

vision has consistently refused to recognize.

Following months of run-a-round that stewards got, with all sorts of Chnicalities to stall settlement at the first step, the workers had a prolonged lunch hour and started work an hour late one morning so they could "discuss" the problem. Following this, Union leaders instructed stewards to advance all outstanding grievances to the next level for action.

Among grievances that were settled this last week were:

A. E. Eocaci, reclassified to A on March 3 with no increase in pay, got a boost from \$1.87½ to \$1.92 effective March 31. The Union is still pressing for three week's back

Louis Passikoff and Raymond Van Allen, machinists, received reclassification to A and increased rates from \$1.82 to \$1.87, with retroactive pay to March 3.

Jack Hogle, performing B machinist work, received a reclassification to B from C effective as of March 31. The Union is now seeking a one step increase to go with

Norman Wentworth, doing electrical work on test and wiring protion machines, got a revaluation that changed his rate from \$1.55 to an established job rate of \$1.79, effective March 31.

Stewards are now conducting a survey, with the aim of ending all chiselling on rates that has taken place in this division.

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U.S. Bureau Spurs **Equal Pay Drive**

The drive to achieve equal pay for equal work for women, a major UE demand in negotiations with GE, got a shot in the arm from the U.S. Department of Labor's Women Bureau when it sponsored a conference in Washington on April 1 for that objective.

Congresswoman Edna F. Kelly (D,NY) has since introduced a bill in congress to make it a federal requirement. Retired Congresswoman Mary T. Norton, a New Dealer, who was for 10 years head of the House Labor Committee, advised all women workers to put pressure on their congressmen to get action from the committee. She said its present southern chairman 'is and always was anti-labor."

The conference also called for such legislation in the states so that women in intra-state work, not covered by federal legislation, would also be guaranteed equal pay for equal work.

Steel Seizure Threatens Tightened Wage Freeze

GE Elmira Strike

GE Elmira Foundry workers, out

on strike since March 25, were still

on strike at presstime against the

company's attempts to speed-up

work and cut rates. GE provoked

the strike when it cut the piece

price on an end shield casting for

a fractional horsepower motor from

just the beginning of a rate-slashing

program in the Elmira foundry

when it told UE negotiators that

"we must compete with foundries

The company turned down a UE

proposal that the plant resume op-

erations on the basis of average

earnings for one month while ne-

gotiations would continue. GE fail-

ure to settle the strike will af-

fect work in Ft. Wayne, Schenec-

tady, Erie, Lynn, Pittsfield and

Mine-Mill Seeks 25c

Calling for the "same kind of

unity and coordination which won

last year's outstanding settlement

despite the wage freeze," a na-

tional wage conference of rank and

file delegates of the Mine, Mill &

Smelter Union set a goal of win-

ning a 25 cent general increase for

the Union's 90,000 members in

1952. The meeting, in Denver, as-

serted that the wage freeze for-

mula is "geared only to the re-

quirements of corporate profit."

Holyoke GE plants.

in Alabama and St. Louis."

\$5.76 a hundred to \$5.

strike began.

In Third Week

When President Truman ordered government seizure of the steel industry at midnight last Tuesday, with a well deserved blast at steel corporations for wanting a price increase

"to double money on the deal" for a wage settlement, the wage freeze on American workers was also tightened a notch more.

The President stressed that the CIO Steel Union wants to "break no ceiling" and just wants to "catch-up," and mentioned that workers in auto, rubber, electrical and meat packing had already won increases up to 17 cents, while steel would only get 131/4 cents. While there is no question, as

the President said, that steel "has GE tried to justify the cut on the never been so profitable" and was basis that a new pattern was inwilling to force a strike to get troduced, when actually all that more than the \$3 a ton increase happened was that two small holes permitted-CIO Steel still lags bewere added and a change in the hind the rest of labor in accepting shape of a minor projection. Origa proposition that not only doesn't inally it was cut to \$4.60 a hun-"catch up," but actually will hurt dred, but UE Local 310 got it up all the rest of CIO, AFL and into \$5 in negotiations before the dependent unions in their efforts to get increases over and beyond the GE also indicated that this is wage freeze formula.

> President Truman also stressed that the CIO Steel Union is willing to settle for only a few "extra" things, such as paid holidays, some premium pay and improved vacations, on which, he said, steel has been "lagging behind" for years.

That steel corporations deserved the tongue-lashing the President gave them was revealed in figures showing profits running at a rate of \$21/2 billion, with a \$19.50 profit on each ton, in contrast to \$11 a ton in the three high-profit years previous to the Korean war. Equally deserved is the support that the ClO Steel Union was getting from all sections of labor, including UE, in their efforts to "catch up."

But with all this, the real danger is that with the CIO Steel Union willing to settle for less than a "catch up," and CIO leaving its members on the wage freeze board to "enforce" the freeze formula it didn't fight, it will only make more difficult the fight of all labor to get needed increases—while steel is willing to sign an 18 month "closed" contract to July 1, 1953 for a nickel more in that time.

GE, also making record profits, will probably try to use this to further cut out free collective bargaining with its workers, giving added stress to the importance of the National UE Wage Conference in Buffalo, April 19, 20, which will map a program to "meet the needs of its members" and "not to fit a freeze formula."

Scribner To Speak At Conference

The Tri-City Civil Liberties Committee announces that David Scribner, UE General Counsel, will be the main speaker at a public conference they are sponsoring in Schenectady on Sunday, April 27, at the Scottish Hall, 205 Clinton St., at 2 p.m.

Theme of the conference is "Labor and Civil Rights." Panel sessions will deal with such phases of civil liberties as fair employment practices, the Humphrey hearings in Washington, housing and Un-American Committee attacks on organized labor.

The sponsoring committee is a non-partisan organization composed mostly of professional and academic persons in the area.