

LOCAL 301 NEWS

THE AFL-CIO

Vol. 8, No. 1 The Voice of G.E. Workers, Local 301 Jan. 6, 1961

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS-STEWARDS AT JANUARY MEETING

FATHER LAMANNA TO MARK 15TH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

Rev. Joseph P. Lamanna, administrator of the Immaculate Conception Church, Johnstown, N.Y., will celebrate the 15th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Sunday, January 8th.

FATHER LAMANNA, known throughout the area as the "Labor Priest", will be present at a reception in his honor at his parish in Johnstown between 3 and 5 p.m., Sunday, January 8, 1961.

The public reception will be open to parishioners and friends and will be hosted by parish organizations including the Rosary Society, Holy Name Society and other groups.

Father Lamanna was ordained on Dec. 22, 1945, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany. His assignments have included assistant pastorships at St. Mary's of Amsterdam, St. Alphonsus of Glens Falls and Lady of Mt. Carmel of Schenectady,

In addition, he has been instrumental in assisting in settling and mediation of a number of labor-management disputes and strikes in this area. He was also cited in 1955 as "Priest of the Year".

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday - Jan. 9th
7:30 p.m. - Union Office

OFFICERS WILL MEET AT 6:00 p.m.

DISTRESSED AREA BILL NO. 1 ON SENATE AGENDA

According to recent reports from Washington, Senate Bill S-1, dealing with Distressed Area legislation, will be the first important piece of business on the Senate Agenda of the 87th Congress.

(cont'd. next column)

Installation of Officers of Local 301 will take place at the next Membership Meeting on Monday, January 16th, 1961.

The officers, including the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Chief Steward, Recording Secretary, Assistant Rec. Sec'y., Business Agent, 3 Trustees, Guide and Sergeant-at-Arms, will serve for a period of two years beginning January 1, 1961.

Installation of 385 Shop Stewards who were elected to a one year term will also take place at the same meeting. In future elections Shop Stewards will be elected to serve a two year term, the same as the Executive Board Members.

A REMINDER

This is to remind our members that claims against the hospitalization and insurance plans should be filed promptly within the 90-day period after the end of the calendar year.

Proof of claim must be filed within this period. If this isn't done, it could result in no benefits being paid.

Rep. Sam Stratton of our Congressional District has also introduced similar legislation in the House of Representatives to help alleviate the unemployment problem in areas such as ours.

The Distressed Area Bill will call for increased Federal Aid to areas suffering from excess unemployment. Some of the projects anticipated include construction of new plants, housing and highway programs and loans to encourage new industry to locate in these areas while at the same time offering assistance to encourage existing plants to expand their facilities. The Eisenhower Administration has vetoed two like proposals in recent years, but there is high hope that the new administration in Washington will have no trouble in obtaining passage in the early part of 1961.

ADDITIONAL HOLIDAY, VACATION, PENSION BENEFITS BEGIN THIS WEEK

Starting with January 1st, 1961, all members of Local 301 will receive an extra paid holiday. A committee has been appointed by the Executive Board to report on its recommendations at the next board meeting on January 9th. The recommendation will then be decided upon and passed on to the next membership meeting in January.

Other contract improvements effective January 1st, 1961, are:

Four weeks vacation to all employees who have 25 years or more of service with the company. This will affect approximately 1,600 employees in the bargaining unit and should spread about 64,000 hours of work among the remainder of the workers in the plant.

PENSION CHANGES

1. Minimum Pension. \$2.40 a month for each year of service for those retiring January 1, 1961; \$2.50 a month for each year of service for those retiring on or after April 2, 1962.
2. Past Service Credits. Credit for all years of service before September 1, 1946, for active and for retired employees is increased by 30%.
3. Vesting. All persons with 15 or more years of service, regardless of age, are eligible for vested rights. All persons 40 years old or older with 10 or more years of service are likewise eligible for vested rights.
4. Early Retirement and Disability. The supplement available for both has been improved from \$55 a month to \$65 a month. The minimum from both is still \$3.00 a month for each year of service plus the new supplement of \$65 a month.
5. Limitation on Years of Service for Minimum. This has been eliminated. Under the old contract the maximum credit was for 25 years. Now, there is no limit to the years of credit. This is very important for three special benefits:
 - (a) Minimum pension at age 65;
 - (b) Minimum special early retirement at age 60. Under the old plan, the maximum pension for those retiring at age 60 was \$130 a month. Now those retiring at 60 with 40 years service would have a minimum of \$120 plus the \$65 supplement or \$185. Those retiring with 30 years service would have \$90 plus the \$65 supplement or \$155.
 - (c) The same would apply to those who were disabled if they had more than 25 years service at the time of disability.
6. Minimum Benefits for Those Regularly Working Less than 40 hours a Week. Employees working on short work schedules of less than 40 hours shall receive service credits on following schedule:

35 or more hours	-	full credit
26 to 35	"	- 3/4 "
18 to 26	"	- 1/2 "
9 to 18	"	- 1/4 "
7. Union Representatives. The charge by G.E. for covering union representatives under the G.E. plan has been reduced by one-third.
8. Actuarial Report. The company agreed to more detailed actuarial and reporting information and to a more adequate actuary's certificate.
9. Early Retirement Rights for Those Laid Off at Age 59. An employee laid off for lack of work at age 59, after exhausting his unemployment benefits and extension aid benefits, shall be eligible at age 60 to qualify for early retirement benefits under the Pension Plan.

"LABOR LOOKS AT THE NEWS"

EVERY SATURDAY - 6:45 P.M. - WSNY

(SPONSORED BY LOCAL 301)