

Vital to Defend Constitutional Rights Against Hartley Group, Jandreau Says

The aim of the kind of campaign the Hartley Committee is conducting is "to tell the workers that they must have a company union or have their union smashed," Leo Jandreau charged in a radio broadcast Sept. 29.

Jandreau said there are "those who think that we should defend the union against such attacks by rushing in with Taft-Hartley affidavits and begging them to believe that we are not Communists and have no Communists among our members."

"The only effect of that," he said, "would be to invite them to demand further and further proof, and the only satisfactory proof to General Electric and the Hartley Committee is company unionism."

Lesson from the Past

He pointed out that after World War I most unions "were forced to become company unions or be crushed by troops and 'Bolshevik' scares." The labor movement was reduced to "a hollow shell" until the Hoover depression, he recalled.

"Then came the New Deal sweep which brought a new Labor movement. We do not propose to help America drop back to the 1920's and set the stage for another 1929. "No. We of UE have a better answer. It lies in the American heritage and the constitution of our own union."

Simple Constitutional Rights

Jandreau listed simple principles of American democracy embodied in the American Constitution.

"That free men and women have

a right to any political beliefs; that these are their own concern, not to be questioned as long as they observe the law of the land.

"That free men and women have to be judged by their actions, and their actions alone.

"That we are entitled to worship God in our own way, and belong to a church of our own choice."

He said, "We who formed the UE believed in these principles so much that we incorporated them in both our local and national constitutions."

Hitting the un-American methods of the Hartley Committee and the Dies-Thomas Committee, Jandreau declared:

Real Danger to Democracy

"American freedom is in danger today from this new hysteria more than from any possible foreign foe.

"It is a danger which would crush organizations of the working people, drive down their working standards, and in so doing, destroy our very democracy. It's high time that somebody stood up to this danger, and when the inquisitors poke their noses into political and religious beliefs, it is high time that some one reminded them that an American's thoughts, like his home, belong to him alone.

UE Run by Its Members

"Our members run this union. If any officer, any board member, any shop steward, does wrong, the members will vote him out.

"But when any self-appointed inquisitors, with axes to grind and headlines to build, seek to inquire into the political or religious beliefs of any of our members we shall remind them that this is still free America, and we intend to keep it so."

Radio Time Changed

Because of political speeches scheduled for next Monday night over the American Broadcasting Company stations, the UE national radio program featuring Arthur Gaeth will be at 10:30 p.m., instead of 10 p.m. It's on WXXKW, Albany (850 on your dial).

The change of hour is for that night only.

Gets New Duties

Albert Eastman of Building 16, who was named by the Executive Board to represent Bldgs. 12, 14 and 16 pending election of a Board member for the section including those buildings, to replace Michael Tedisco, resigned.



Here's the Situation As to Contempt Threat

At the present time there is no contempt action against the 11 officers, members, and former members of 301 named by Congressman Kersten (Republican) and Fischer (Democrat). There is only a threat of such action.

To carry out that threat, Kersten and Fischer's recommendation must be approved by the whole Hartley committee, and by the House of Representatives after the new Congress opens in January. Then it is up to the Department of Justice to prosecute the men in the courts if the department thinks there is a case.

Attorneys advise Local 301 that the witnesses conducted themselves properly under the law to protect their union in the hearings before Kersten and Fischer, and that there are no good grounds for holding them in contempt.

Observers familiar with the ways of the Hartley committee feel that the contempt threat was intended mainly to intimidate the witnesses and the membership generally, rather than with the idea that the action could be made to stand up. The threat was made because the well-planned efforts of the subcommittee to split and frighten the membership was broken by the resistance of the witnesses.

No Strings Attached

On the eve of a strike, UE Local 435 won a pay increase of 10 cents across-the-board at Walker-Turner Company, Plainfield, N. J. The company had offered eight cents and wanted the union to give up Saturday and Sunday overtime pay and some piecework safeguards. The union won the 10 cents with no strings attached.

Newspapers Very Silent On Indictments of GE

Newspapers have printed indignant editorials and articles over the refusal of UE officers and members to answer unconstitutional questions of the Hartley Committee based on no actual charges whatsoever. But did you ever read the slightest newspaper criticism of GE in connection with the civil and criminal charges made against it by the United States government or even in connection with actions which GE has admitted?

Remember the criminal indictment against GE for a price-fixing agreement on carboly with the German Krupp firm? This agreement has been called one of the chief bottlenecks hindering American preparations for World War II. The case is still awaiting the court's decision in New York City.

A civil charge against GE, for monopolistic control of lamp prices, was tried recently in federal court in Trenton, N. J. The judge hasn't handed down his decision yet.

In 1942 GE was indicted for collusive bidding on government contracts, and was found guilty. The company paid a fine of \$7,500.

Charged in a civil action with conspiring with foreign companies in restraint of trade, International GE accepted a "consent decree." This means that while not formally admitting guilt, the company promises "not to do it again."

Altogether the U. S. Department of Justice has brought GE into court 10 times since 1939 on charges involving violations of the anti-trust laws, and including conspiracies with German, Italian and Japanese firms.

In contrast to this GE record, not a single member of UE has been charged with any act of disloyalty against the United States.

State Officials Delay Action on GE Pay Days

The State Labor Department has notified Local 301 that it will not act on the union's complaint about the proposed change in pay days at the Schenectady GE plant until the company files briefs. GE representatives conferred with state officials last week in Albany on the union's charge that the pay-day change is a violation of state law.

Earlier an official of the labor department told the union he agreed that the shift is a violation.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301 - - - - - U. E. R. & M. W. A. - - - - - C. I. O.

Vol. 6 - No. 41

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

October 15, 1948

GE Convicted Plan United Fight of GE Locals Of Conspiring To Fix Prices

The General Electric Company, which dares question the loyalty of officers and members of UE, was convicted Oct. 8 in Federal Court of the criminal charge of violating the anti-trust laws by a price-fixing conspiracy with the Nazi Krupp munitions trust.

Judge John C. Knox found GE guilty of conspiring with the Nazi firm to monopolize the sale of carboly, a conspiracy which continued from 1927 to 1940, after Hitler started the war in Europe. Testimony before the Kilgore subcommittee of the Senate showed that this GE conspiracy created one of the most serious bottlenecks of the whole American war effort.

Zay Jeffries Found Guilty

Convicted with GE were two of its subsidiaries, the International General Electric Company of New York and the Carboly Company of Detroit, and three individuals: Walter G. Robbins, president of the Carboly Co.; Zay Jeffries, chairman of the board of Carboly and a GE vice-president, and Walter M. Stearns of Schenectady, former GE manager of trade relations and special accounts.

The three companies are subject to possible fines totaling \$25,000 each and the individuals can be

Who Is Un-American?

Zay Jeffries, GE vice-president convicted of a conspiracy with the Nazi Krupp firm to fix the price of carboly, made a speech in October, 1946 accusing union leaders of having "un-American objectives." He appealed for the crippling of the Wagner Act and opposed "high wages" for labor.

ined the same amount and can be imprisoned for five years each.

No business man has ever been sent to prison in this country for anti-trust law violation. The only penalties have been fines which are tiny compared with huge profits made by price-fixing.

Sentencing Postponed

Judge Knox postponed the sen-



tencing in the carboly case. GE and the other defendants could have had a jury trial, but chose to have the decision rest with the judge alone.

The Krupp firm was named in the indictment, but was not tried because it was outside the court's jurisdiction.

Judge Knox found that the four companies (including Krupp) "acquired patents which were so used as substantially to dominate the entire interstate and foreign commerce of the United States in the field of hard metal compositions."

\$453 a Pound

The government charged that GE and its fellow-conspirators set a price of \$453 a pound on some compositions as compared with \$48 charged by the Krupp firm in Germany.

GE issued a statement last week complaining because the government dared bring a criminal action against it. If business men must act "under the constant threat of a criminal conviction" in such cases,

Section Night Party

The section represented by Board Member James Cognetta will have a section night social Monday night at 301 hall. The program will include, beer, hot dogs, ping-pong and cards. This will be the first of a series of get-togethers for various sections. The Executive Board asked the Activities Committee to arrange the affairs.

UE Broadcast

Tune in on the Arthur Gaeth broadcast, sponsored by the national UE, at 10 p.m. every Monday on WXXKW, Albany (850 on your dial).

GE declared, "then there are dark days ahead for the development of new business enterprises." Apparently GE thinks criminal action should be taken only against workers.

GE declared that nothing of which the government complained was continued after 1940.

UE Delegates Hit Actions Of Lilienthal

General Electric locals of UE will not be blackmailed into letting GE clamp "government-enforced company unions" on its employees, the GE Conference Board of UE declared at a meeting in New York City Tuesday.

The Conference, composed of delegates from GE locals throughout the country, called on the membership "to unite against company propaganda and disruption for the protection of their hard-won rights and gains."

Publicity Campaign

A statement on the Atomic Energy Commission's aid to GE against the union was adopted unanimously by the delegates. The statement said:

"The General Electric Company and Chairman Lilienthal of the Atomic Energy Commission have just blossomed out in a sudden joint publicity campaign against UE. The attack has been centered around the question of whether or not a few hundred UE members in Schenectady may be represented by UE if and when they are employed in GE's un-built atomic energy plant. The company and the AEC couple this with a threat to deny collective bargaining rights to some 300 UE members now covered by the UE national contract at their present place of employment, the Schenectady Peek Street Plant.

No Notice to Union

"No question of representation had been raised by the union or its

(Continued on Page 2)

Membership Meeting To Elect Delegates

Delegates to the UE District 3 Council and to the Capital District CIO Council will be elected at the membership meeting of Local 301 next week at the union hall. First and third shift workers will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and second shift workers at 1 p.m. Wednesday.

REGISTRATION ENDS TOMORROW

Plan United Fight Of All GE Locals

(Continued from Page 1)

membership to bring on the issue. The question was made front-page news by the company and the commissioner, acting in collaboration, without any prior notice to or discussion with the union. They raised the issue on their own initiative and timed their announcement to suit their own purposes.

"The announcement came just before GE was found guilty on all counts of a federal indictment charging criminal conspiracy with the German firm of Krupp, chief armaments maker for the Nazis.

GE, Hartley Agents Meet

"In preparation for the atom war on the union, GE brought representatives of the Hartley Committee to Schenectady to act as advance propaganda agents. Arrangements for the Hartley Committee's smear campaign against UE were made between representatives of the company and the committee at a meeting in New York City during the weekend of August 28-29.

"GE and Mr. Lilienthal base their propaganda blast at UE upon a pretended concern for the security of the United States.

"GE knows that union representatives are excluded from all places where atomic work goes on, that grievances may not be investigated nor deadly health hazards checked, to the detriment of the workers and the great advantage of GE.

Security No Issue

"GE and AEC know that every worker on atomic projects is checked, screened, investigated and approved as to character, association and loyalty by the Army, the Navy, the FBI and the Atomic Energy Commission.

"The whole country knows the record of this union, its membership and its leadership, in protecting the best interests of American workers and of the country.

"There is no issue of security involved.

"GE and Mr. Lilienthal have

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS
United Electrical, Radio & Machine
Workers of America, CIO
SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

Published by Editorial Committee
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Editorial Office
ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS
301 Liberty St., Schenectady, N. Y.
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CONGRESSMAN DRIPP BY YOMEN



"I'M GOING TO EUROPE TO INVESTIGATE UNAMERICAN ACTIVITIES."

The Thomas Committee on Un-American Activities announced recently that it will now carry its investigations right into the gloomiest depths of Africa. It's worried because a group of French, Belgian and Dutch scientists plan to gaze at stars from a \$3,000,000 international observatory which is to be built in the Belgian Congo. There are uranium deposits in the vicinity, the committee pointed out suspiciously.

joint and separate motives for their present collaboration. Mr. Lilienthal hopes to promote his continuation in office by insuring that he will never again be red-baited as he was last year by the U. S. Senate. He expects to do so by rushing to associate himself with GE, Herr Krupp's American partner.

Atomic Profits

"Both GE and the Atomic Energy Commission hope to shut off by their anti-union propaganda any public discussion of how it happens that the secrets of atomic energy, developed at a cost of billions of dollars of American taxpayers' money have been handed over for the private profit of a trust whose connections with the industrialists of the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo axis are notorious throughout the world.

"GE hopes to use the Atomic Energy Commission as a tool to exclude bona fide unionism in its plants. It hopes to extend this program from atomic work to all other government work, using other government agencies in turn as enforcers. Its scheme is to smash all unionism in its plants, and to set up a kind of company unionism

new to America, with subservient governmental bodies exercising control over the unions on behalf of the corporation. GE has gotten more than price-fixing patent deals out of the Nazi industrialists. It has taken over from them its whole new program for labor relations.

GE Wants Company Union

"GE hates the UE, the union of its employees, and has publicly announced that it will be satisfied with no union unless its members and leaders completely accept GE's ideas on wages, hours and working conditions, which is what they mean when they talk about "free enterprise."

"The company pretends that it objects on security grounds to the association of UE members with the leadership of their union. GE knows that every important decision in UE is made by the membership directly involved. It is because of that very fact, that control of UE is in the hands of its membership, that GE hates the union. If UE were the sort of union in which leadership exercised dictatorial control over the members in the interests of the company,

Just Another Plug For Company Unions

In his latest red-baiting campaign of intimidation against GE workers, Vice-president L. R. Boulware in last week's Works News came out as an expert on Communism.

But after hundreds of words quoted by Boulware as coming from Communist writers, Boulware's main point came in this paragraph near the end of his "message:"

"Communists in America — and those back of them abroad — seek to get their agents into top jobs in unions, both nationally and locally; seek to appear to be running 'good' unions in the members' interests . . . so that the members will be ready in some national crisis to act instantly, and unthinkingly, on their leaders' orders — to America's ruin."

There it is, GE workers. If you union is a good union, run in the members' interests, you must be suspicious of it, says Boulware. It is probably a Communist plot to ruin America, says Boulware. Only a company union is safe for Mr. Boulware's idea of America. Only two weeks earlier he had put forth the same thought in the message "A Plague on Both Your Houses."

As one member remarked:

"Does Boulware think we're fools who would just ruin America because some one told us to? Of course, he doesn't really think any such thing. He knows we, the members, run this union. He knows our leaders have never given us orders — they've taken our orders. That's just what Boulware doesn't like about UE. It belongs to the members."

District 3 to Handle Christmas Tree Orders

Handling of FDR Christmas tree orders for Local 301 members has been turned over to UE District 3. The 301 Executive Board decided recently it would be simpler to have all orders placed through the district.

When the 301 office recently learned from Elliot Roosevelt that there would not be enough balsam trees available to fill all the orders, shop stewards reexamined their groups to see how many would take spruce instead. About 25 expressed willingness to take spruce.

neither GE nor the Atomic Energy Commission would have a word of complaint to make."

Community Chest Donations Needed

Many members of Local 301 haven't contributed yet to the Community Chest drive. 301 Vice-President, William Hodges, co-chairman of the campaign at the GE works, this week urged these members "to give serious consideration to the Chest."

The last 301 membership meeting voted overwhelmingly to support the Chest campaign, he pointed out.

"We all know how necessary the services are of the 23 agencies depending on the Chest," he said. "The campaign got off to a slow start, but I am confident that the quota can be reached in the shops."

Hodges asked collectors to complete their canvassing as rapidly as possible. The drive was supposed to be over on Wednesday of the present week. At a meeting of campaign workers Tuesday, however, reports showed the drive at the plant had only reached the half-way mark.

The quota is \$114,000 for the shops and \$51,000 for the office employees.

301 Board Distributes Anti-Sales Tax Petitions

The 301 Executive Board this week circulated petitions in the plant opposing any sales tax, payroll tax or increased tax to homeowners and asking the Board of Supervisors and Schenectady City Council to raise any additional money needed by a tax of 3/10 of 1 per cent on commercial businesses with gross receipts of over \$100,000 a year.

Immediate action by union members on the tax question is urgent, the Board decided at its meeting Monday night, because city and county authorities are considering a sales tax or hoisting the tax on homeowners.

The petition campaign in Schenectady was started by 301 President Andrew Peterson, Dr. Walter Gross, and Mario Iovinella, ALP candidates for Congress, State Senate and Assembly. They are running on the ALP ticket. Their campaign representative brought the matter before the Board.

The Board drew up its own petitions for distribution to 301 members.

12 1/2 Cent Increase

An agreement negotiated by UE Local 1139 at Minneapolis with Stockland Road Machinery Company won a general pay raise of 12 1/2 cents an hour for the workers.

Papers Try to Dignify Hartley Sub-Committee

As was to be expected, the newspapers have been teaming up with the Hartley sub-committee to make the people believe that the sub-committee is "the government," and that union witnesses who refused to answer questions were "fighting the government."

The Union-Star went far in that direction Oct. 2 in a highly-colored piece entitled "Dignity of U. S. Government Takes Beating at UE Probe."

The writer of the piece pretended to believe Congressman Kersten's declaration that he was not out to wreck labor, and that the Congressmen showed "good will" to the witnesses.

Knew Committee's Record

Of course the Union-Star had been given ample proof that the Congressmen were against labor. The Union-Star knew of the sub-committee's strikebreaking interference in Dayton, Ohio, and other places, and the fact that the Hartley committee had promoted the use of force and violence against workers in Evansville, Ind. But why bother with facts when you're writing a story to attack labor? Plain GE workmen had dared tell a couple of Congressmen off, and that was just too terrible for the Union-Star.

Not the Government

The fact is that the Congressmen are not the government. They were elected to serve the people, but have been doing a job against the people. In their so-called "investigation", they have been misusing the power of Congress in the manner developed by the Dies Committee. It means that people accused of nothing at all can be smeared in the newspapers by using irresponsible Congressmen and irresponsible witnesses to say anything, under Congressional immunity, and with no chance to cross-examine them.

Until the recent war scares, even most newspapers did not dare defend such abuses.

Canadian Contract

The first UE agreement with Canadian Allis Chalmers brought a raise of 10 cents an hour, retroactive to May 22, and eight paid holidays. The contract covers 285 workers at Lachine, Quebec.

Transport Union Dance

301 Executive Board members are selling \$100 worth of tickets for the dance which Local 159, Transport Workers Union, will give tomorrow night at P.N.A. Hall.



Here's your man, J.B.... He can't see the reason for unions..... or anything else, for that matter....

Pay Increases Won For Bldg. 42 Trio

The union has obtained a new classification for two workers in Building 42, both with over 20 years service, and a third man involved in the same grievance case has been transferred to piece-work, with higher earnings.

A. C. Stevens stated that the company made the changes "out of sympathy" and not because of the merits of the grievance case. While accepting the pay increases, the union will take the case to the Howell level to press for retroactive pay for all three.

The work of the three included operating a milling machine, a degreaser, and a rim-stripping machine and assisting in operating a quality control system. They received \$1.13 an hour, six cents less than porter's pay.

After a grievance was filed four months ago, there was a shop investigation in which Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani, Board Member Willard Kuschel, and William Kelly, assistant to the business agent, took part, and Paul Thompson of Bldg. 41.

At a meeting in 41 last week the company claimed the pay rates were justified by physical handicaps. Union representatives pointed out that the three perform their work satisfactorily, despite any

Radio Appeals Fail To Get Strikebreakers

Radio appeals by Belmont Radio Company, Chicago, for strikebreakers fizzled when not a single person answered the call. The company appealed for help over a Joliet radio station and offered to transport workers by bus from Joliet to the plant, where a UE strike is in effect.

UE Local 1149 bought radio time on the same station and warned Joliet citizens that by accepting Belmont's offer they would be strikebreaking. To bolster its unsuccessful radio plea the company issued leaflets. Again, no luck.

Happy Ending

The company has found a matron's job in Building 1 for the elderly woman recently laid-off in Bldg. 40, who wants a chance to keep on earning until she has to retire Dec. 1 at the age of 60. At first management told the union there was no work available for her.

handicap. A. C. Stevens said he wanted to investigate the case personally.

Stevens gave a new classification, miscellaneous machine operator, to the two older workers, with a job rate of \$1.27 1/2 an hour, an increase of 14 1/2 cents.