

Peterson's Program

The program on which President Andrew Peterson of Local 301 is basing his campaign for Congress is the program drawn up in January by representatives of CIO unions and the Farmers Union in the Thirty-First Congressional District. The membership of Local 301 has approved the program and has voted to back Brother Peterson's candidacy. The program is as follows:

Cost of Living

1. Restore price control—Subsidies to insure a decent standard of living for farmers.
2. Prosecute food trusts for price fixing, which robs farmers and consumers and squeezes small business.
3. Expose profiteering in price spread between farmer and consumer.
4. Prohibit speculation on the grain exchange.

Civil Rights and Democracy

1. Oppose Universal Military Training.
2. Federal Anti-Lynching Law.
3. Federal Anti-Poll Tax Law to allow disenfranchised workers and farmers in the South to vote.
4. Abolish the Thomas-Rankin Un-American Committee.
5. Revoke Truman's repressive "loyalty order", No. 9835.
6. Federal legislation to outlaw racial and religious discrimination in employment, education or otherwise.
7. Oppose return of Prohibition.

Labor

1. Repeal Taft-Hartley Law.
2. Oppose all similar federal, state, and local anti-labor legislation.
3. A real full employment law.
4. 75-cent minimum wage law.

Farmers

1. Guaranteed price level of 150% of parity.
2. Support all efforts to maintain the family size farmer.
3. Maintain federal-state Milk Marketing Order.
4. Support farmers' co-ops and oppose efforts of National Tax Equality Association to tax co-ops out of existence.
5. Expand existing soil conservation programs.
6. Expand rural electrification program.
7. Expand Farmers' Home Administration.

Veterans

1. Federal Bonus.
2. Increase benefits to disabled vets and their dependents.
3. Increase subsistence allowances to student vets and for on-the-job training.
4. Cut to 2% the interest rate for federal loans to vets for homes, businesses and farms.
5. Increase appropriations for Veterans' Administration.

Taxes

1. Raise income tax exemptions to \$3,000 for couples and \$500 for each dependent.
2. Progressively higher taxes beginning with small amount above \$3,000 and approaching 100% tax on net incomes over \$25,000.
3. Reject all forms of sales taxes.
4. Restore excess profits tax on corporations.

Foreign Policy

1. Support universal disarmament to include international control of atomic energy, discontinuance of production of atom bombs and full international inspection.
2. Complete elimination of the cartels and Nazi control of industry which planned and furnished the economic base for Hitler's and Hirohito's military aggressions.
3. Protection of the rights of self-determination and self-govern-

Endorsed by 301



Photo by Procter Studios

Dr. Walter S. Gross, endorsed by Local 301 as candidate for state senator, supports the same platform on which President Andrew Peterson is running for Congress. On state and local issues he also is pledged to the program adopted by Local 301. Dr. Gross has entered the Democratic primary against the machine candidate, Vincent Smith, and has ALP endorsement.

Important — Veterans!

Tomorrow is the deadline for reinstating National Service life insurance which has lapsed, without undergoing a complete physical examination. All you have to do is file a Veterans' Administration form stating your health is as good now as it was when the policy lapsed.

8 Per Cent Raise Voted

The Local 301 membership and stewards' meeting last week voted to give an eight per cent raise to the union staff and office force, to match the raise obtained by the union from GE.

- ment of economically backward and colonial peoples.
4. Relief to war-ravished peoples and post-war rehabilitation with proviso that under no circumstances should food or any other aid be used as a means of coercing free but needy people in the exercise of their rights of independence and self-government or to stir up civil war.

Housing

1. Large-scale federal low cost housing program sufficient to house all people.
2. Restore priority and price control on home building materials.

Health and Social Security

1. National health law to guarantee that all people shall have dental, medical and hospital care.
2. Raise old age pensions to meet living costs.

Seniority Rights Violated by GE

Local 301 has filed a formal grievance over the company's flat refusal to comply with the seniority provision of the contract in connection with the current lay-offs of women workers in the Industrial Control Division. The national office also has taken the question up directly with the top GE management.

Assemblers with close to five years' service, laid-off recently in Building 69, were told at the employment office either that there were no jobs for them, or only the least desirable kind. The explanation given the union by the Works manager's labor relations division in Bldg. 41 was that virtually only women with five or more years were staying on.

But the operators being laid-off reported that girls with less than two years' service, previously transferred from 69, still were working in other buildings. When details were given to Bldg. 41, the company admitted the facts. Management said it does not intend to lay off the short service women now, because further lay-offs of longer service girls would come in a few weeks, and if the ones-laid-off now were to "bump" the short service girls, they would in turn have to be "bumped" later.

The union takes the position that this is no excuse for violating the contract.

Pay Increases Won At North Tonawanda

UE has negotiated pay raises for workers at the National Manufacturing Company and Taber Instrument Company, North Tonawanda.

At National Manufacturing, 63 per cent of the employees get a pay boost of 13 cents an hour and the rest get 11 cents. There is a straight 10 cent raise at Taber Instrument.

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Volunteer Workers For Primary Meet

A group of over 75 volunteer workers met at 301 Hall Tuesday night to plan canvassing activities for the Peterson-Gross campaign. The meeting was called by the Independent Political Action Subcommittee.

After a general session, Morton Lewis, a member of the sub-committee, addressed the ward and town captains. The captains also had sessions with their own groups.

Dr. Walter S. Gross, endorsed by the 301 membership as candidate for state senate, addressed the meeting. (See statement and platform on page 4). He was introduced by 301 Vice-President William Hodges.

"I cut my baby teeth on a union card," Dr. Gross said, explaining that his father belonged to the AFL Painters and Decorators union.

"I am concerned with the common problems of labor," he said, "not with any one faction of labor or of any other group."

"It's time we correct the mistakes we made a few years ago, in letting a reactionary Congress come into power, and see that those mistakes aren't made on a state level."

Vice-President Hodges declared it is time for union members to cross over party lines, and vote for the individual candidate who will really serve the interest of the people.

Mario Iovanela, ALP candidate for Assembly, predicted to the group that canvassing would be an easy job, on the basis of the response he got when he collected signatures for the nominating petitions of Peterson and Gross.

It was reported that campaign committees have been organized in Montgomery, Fulton and Otsego counties by labor, farm and other groups.

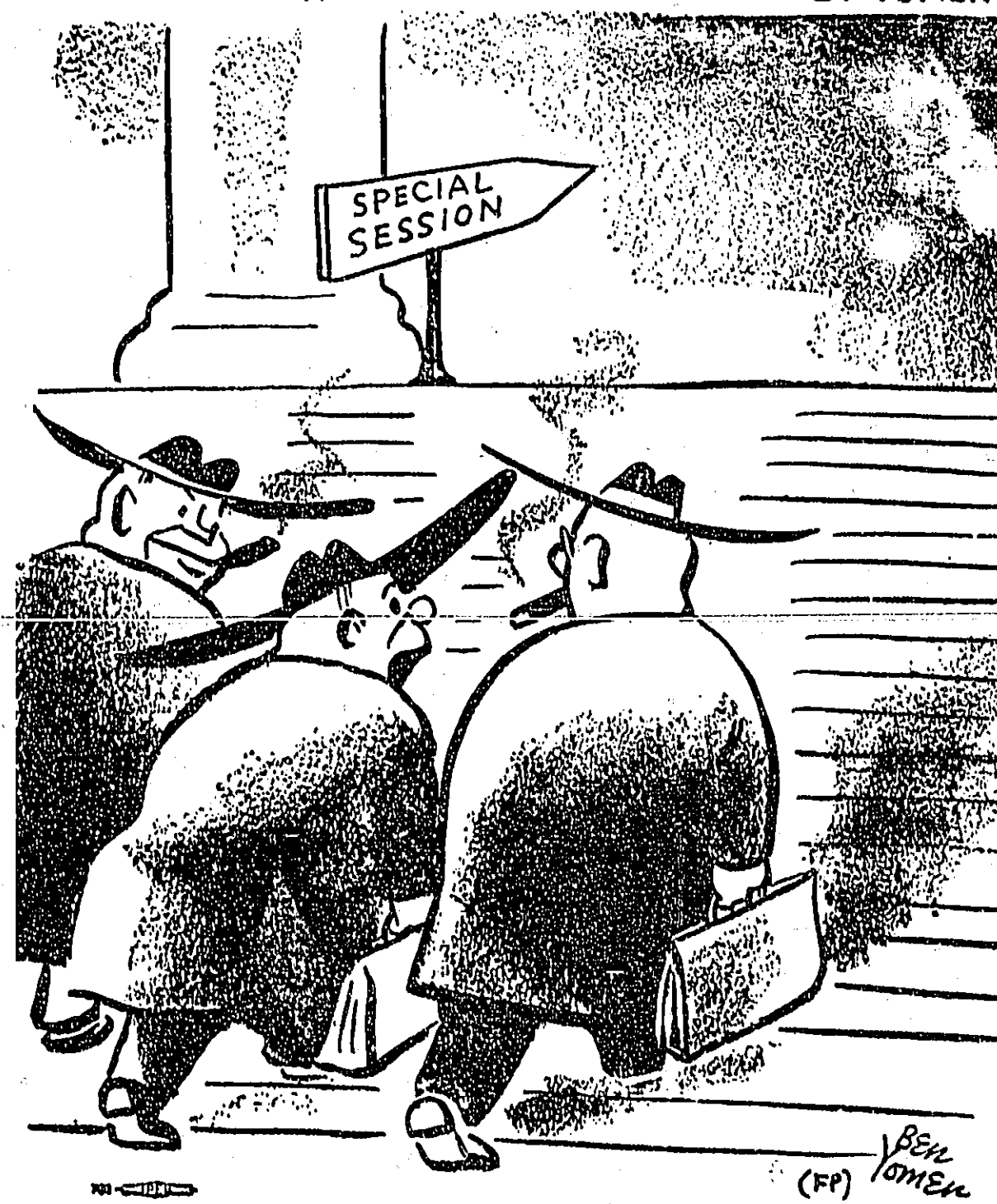
More Steel Profits

That recent wage increase cost the United States Steel Company an estimated \$65 million a year. Then the company raised prices over 11 per cent — while hinting that wage increases were the cause.

The price increase will net the company close to \$190 million this year—\$130 million more than the cost of the wage hike.

CONGRESSMAN DRIPP

BY YOMEN



"WHAT! UNDO IN A FEW WEEKS WHAT WE DID IN THE PAST TWO YEARS?"

City Group Criticizes Dropping Bus Overnight

As the result of a complaint by Morton Lewis, Local 301 representative, the Schenectady Joint Legislative Transportation Committee at a meeting Monday night at city hall passed a resolution instructing the Schenectady Railway Company to give it 30 days notice of route changes.

The Railway Company last week discontinued its Saratoga bus leaving the GE plant at 12:45 a.m. with only 24 hours notice.

Try Adding It Up

A grievance processed by the union has brought a raise of five cents an hour, retroactive to Mar., 1947, to Robert White, tool room machine operator on a rotary service grinder. A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, agreed that he should have received the increase when the tool room case was settled last year. Shop Steward Joseph Krone filed the grievance.

Peterson Writes Letter To Congressman Kearney

In line with the political action program of Local 301, President Andrew Peterson wrote to Congressman Bernard W. Kearney last week urging that the special session of Congress "rise above partisan politics" and enact the kind of program needed by the American people.

Wednesday and yesterday Peterson was in Washington as Local 301 delegate at a national UE emergency legislative conference. The union members called at the offices of their Congressmen and Senators to demand constructive action on prices, housing and other problems.

"The special session of Congress takes place at a time when the American people face serious problems, created largely by many harmful actions of the Eightieth Congress," Peterson said in his letter to Kearney.

MAKE YOUR SHOP 100 PER CENT UE

301 Presents Facts on Craft Rates to GE

Facts and figures were presented to the management by Local 301 at conferences in Building 41 Monday and Wednesday to show that rates paid skilled crafts at the GE plant here are substandard.

The next meeting will be Aug. 17, after the company has studied this data.

Louis Male, general superintendent, met with Business Agent Leo Jandreau and the joint craft steering committee. President Andrew Peterson attended the Monday session, but was in Washington Wednesday.

Jandreau urged "that we straighten these craft rates out now, once and for all, so that this thing isn't an annual affair."

Arranged Last Week

In a letter from Works Manager J. M. Howell, management last week notified the union it would discuss claims of inequities in craft rates "after a week has elapsed during which there are no work stoppages or other demonstrations by the members of your Union." This letter came after the building trades had for six weeks refused overtime, and the toolmakers, tool-room machine operators, machinists (non-production) and welders had held three successive weekly meetings during working hours. These crafts also had refused overtime for two weeks.

On recommendation of the joint steering committee, the craft workers called off a protest meeting scheduled for Wednesday last week, in view of the Howell letter. The crafts also decided to continue refusing to work overtime.

Union Submits Figures

At the suggestion of management that evidence about pay rates be submitted in installments, for one group at a time, the union Monday presented facts about the tool room occupations only. The company said it would prefer to clear up the toolroom question first and then proceed separately with the others.

Male said Monday that he would meet again with the union Wednesday to discuss the data presented on the toolroom trades.

(Continued on Page 3)

301 Resolutions for UE Convention

Here are the remaining resolutions which Local 301 adopted for introduction at the national UE convention. EU News last week and the week before printed the others. All the resolutions, recommended by the Executive Board, were approved overwhelmingly by the shop stewards' and membership meeting.

Wages and Prices

Big Business, with General Electric Company in the lead, has been conducting an all-out propaganda drive to confuse the American people into believing that wage increases are the cause of price increases and inflation, in face of the fact that Big Business profits are reaching ever new heights. GE has just set another profit record for the first half of 1948.

The truth is that Big Business takes advantage of conditions in the country and the world to push prices and profits up regardless of wages, and carries on a campaign to reduce wages and further increase profits.

The welfare of our members requires that we carry on a consistent campaign both to raise our wages to catch up with past price increases and in line with increased productivity, and at the same time to re-establish full control over the prices of commodities entering into our cost of living, including supplies and equipment sold to farmers. This campaign must be carried among our members, through negotiations, in the community, and through political action.

National Officers And PAC

The Executive Board directed EU News to publish the roll-call vote of the Board on the resolution on national officers and PAC. The vote was 16 yes; 7 no and 3 absent. Voting "Yes" were Quirini, Pelrah, Mastriani, Jandreau, Davis, Villano, Kuschel, Stewart, Cognetta, Esposito, Mangino, Brashear, LaBombard, Fernandez as alternate for Sisto, Templeton as alternate for Ferris, and McCartin. Voting "No", Hodges, Flannigan, Bishop, Kaminski as alternate for Busse,

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Grosbeck, Kriss and Scott. Absent, White, Tedisco and Brauneisen. (Cognetta was absent but at the membership meeting asked to be recorded as voting yes). Peterson, presiding, did not vote. The resolution follows:

The membership of this union has stood for genuine non-partisan political action, with decisions in the hands of the membership. Local 301 scored some notable successes in the 1947 elections by applying these principles.

During the past year the national CIO-PAC sought to establish complete domination of CIO political action from the top, and specifically to tie the CIO politically to the Democratic machine, despite the Truman Administration record of repeated strikebreaking and surrender to Big Business. Thereby the national CIO-PAC destroyed both the independence and the effectiveness of PAC.

We commend President Fitzgerald and Secretary Treasurer Emspak for their action in resigning from the board of the National CIO-PAC in protest against the above conduct. We agree with the national officers that Henry Wallace not only has the right to run, but will contribute to a genuine discussion of the issues. We endorse the formation of the UE Independent Political Committee, and control of UE political action by the UE membership.

Labor Unity

The working people of America today face the growing onslaught of attacks by Big Business, which is armed with the power of all-time high profits and available money, and with virtually complete control over the government. To meet this onslaught, labor is in greater need than ever of genuine unity, unity on the basis of the principles of progressive trade unionism.

We do not mean unity by surrender to employers, nor by giving up the fight for our living standards, nor by giving up the political independence of labor, nor by giving up the principles and practice of industrial unionism, democracy, and union autonomy which have made this union strong and effective for the benefit of its members.

We mean unity to advance the common aims of the working



people, to raise our living standards, defeat the attacks of Big Business, build industrial unionism, maintain rank and file control, extend democracy in the country, and return control of the government to the people.

This principled unity is being blocked today by some long-entrenched top union officers in the American Federation of Labor who are more concerned with keeping their high-paid jobs than with the real interests of the American working people.

But despite the obstacles at the top, there is room for united action by the rank and file of the unions. We join hands with the members of all unions in fighting for higher wages, for lower prices, against the Taft-Hartley law and other anti-labor legislation, and in working for the election of candidates for local, state, and national office who will represent the common man.

This unity of action on day-to-day issues will lay the sound basis for achieving later full unity of the whole labor movement.

National Officers

In the year just past, the most difficult yet in the history of the union, the national officers, Brothers Albert Fitzgerald, Julius Emspak, and James J. Matles, once again rendered outstanding service to the membership.

The national officers led in winning a wage increase, under conditions of unusual difficulty in the country and within the labor movement. Thanks to these officers the UE was the only major labor organization which entered upon 1948 with a real wage program to be placed before the members and the public. The UE officers did their utmost to unite the major CIO unions behind this program, despite the fact one of the Big Three unions was tied down by a

GE Writer Ventures On Dangerous Ground

The new pay raise UE has obtained from GE has started Hugh Crane worrying again. Crane is the columnist in the GE Works News who complained recently that railway workers and maritime workers are overpaid.

In his July 2 column, after commenting on the 8 per cent GE raise, Crane expressed concern over the fact that workers open yearly negotiations for pay increases.

"I don't see why a man should get any more for the same work this year than last year, or next year than this year (except as the cost of living is squeezing him)", he wrote.

"Or in the words of the economists, I don't see why wages should rise except for increased 'productivity'. A man doesn't deserve more unless he produces more."

Those are the kind of words GE likes to print. But a little further along in the column, GE's Charlie McCarthy was a little careless.

In mentioning the way new machines and new methods increase productivity he said:

"Let the company get some benefit out of the new machines, but let the workmen have some too."

That's pretty dangerous talk for a GE stooge. Doesn't Crane know that the GE theory is that the company should get ALL the benefit out of new machines and new methods? GE insists that a worker isn't entitled to higher earnings for increased productivity resulting from an improvement in machinery.

As far as GE is concerned, the only way a worker should expect to get more money for increased productivity is to work faster.

no-strike agreement. Our national officers' leadership was in a large measure responsible for the raises won this year in mass production industries generally.

The national officers have fought for the maintenance of the principles upon which UE was founded, and against those, including the Carey-Block so-called Democratic Action clique, who would destroy the union's democracy and its ability to fight for the members.

The national officers have fought for genuine independent political action by labor. They have successfully kept building the union throughout these trying times.

It is high time that the entire membership and the general public recognize our national officers as being among the country's outstanding labor leaders and fighters for democracy.

Compensation Court Awards

An award of \$300 for a facial disfigurement was made recently by a Workmen's Compensation referee to John S. Kruszewski of Bldg. 93, against GE. He was injured at the plant Sept. 13, 1945.

Edward A. Gregory, die setter whose nose was fractured Feb. 13, 1947, receives \$250.

Results of other cases, also handled by the Local 301 attorney, Marshall Perlin, for union members include:

\$28 a week to Ernest Carlson, Bldg. 285, from May 28 to July 22 for a double hernia suffered May 11. Adjournd till September.

\$28 a week to Genevieve I. Hernes, punch press operator in Bldg. 69, from May 10 to July 5 for loss of part of left thumb. Case to be continued four months.

\$28 a week to Leo Bonneau, drill press operator in Bldg. 60, from May 6 to June 7 for back injury suffered May 5. Case continued four months for re-examination.

\$22.31 a week to Ernest DuPont, porter in Bldg. 46, from Apr. 26 for as long as he is totally disabled. He suffered a back injury Mar. 22, 1941.

\$27.71 a week to Mildred H. Salerno from Apr. 22 to July 22 while recovering from operation. Her back was injured twice in 1947 and Jan. 30, 1948.

\$28 a week to Sonora Blakeley, Bldg. 28, from June 25 to July 2 and \$14.77 a week from July 2 to July 28 for injuries to her right leg, arm and back May 6. To continue at \$14.77 till September.

10 Cent Raise

A 10 cent package increase was won by UE at the Flood City Brass and Electric Company, Johnstown, Pa.



More 301 Shop Stewards Take Oath of Office



George Walker, extreme left, Local 301 guide, administers the oath of office to new shop stewards at the July 21 membership and stewards' meeting: left to right, Orance Gottschalk, Bldg. 52; Casmer Ceglarski, 49; Lena Radriek, 89; Elizabeth Stanionis, 53; Michael Petro, 5, and Walter Kniffen, 49.

Silicosis Check-up At Elmira GE Plant

Because of the number of silicosis cases discovered among workers at the GE foundry at Elmira, UE recently arranged for chest X-rays and medical examinations for employees at the plant.

Over 650 workers, or about 95 per cent of the group, took advantage of the chance to have the X-rays. A New York City lung specialist examined the X-rays and medical examinations were scheduled for workers whose lungs are believed affected. UE District 3 cooperated with Local 301 in this health program.

The check-up on the extent of silicosis was started after Workmen's Compensation awards were made to a number of workers found to be permanently disabled by the disease. Silicosis is caused by sand or similar substances getting into the lungs.

Schenectady workers can get free chest X-rays too, through the Schenectady County Tuberculosis and Public Health Committee. No appointment is necessary. All you have to do is visit the X-ray room in the basement of city hall in the Jay St. side, between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., or between 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. week-days, and from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday. The process takes from two to five minutes.

301 on Air

The Local 301 broadcast is at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday over WSNY.

301 Presents Facts on Craft Rates to GE

(Continued from Page 1)

However he telephoned Jandreau Tuesday to say the job will take longer than he thought, because of the extent of the material submitted by the union and the fact that several key people he has to contact are on vacation. Male suggested that the union present its data on the other trades Wednesday.

Therefore GE now has sufficient information from the union on all the crafts involved in the discussion to show the justice of the union's claims.

Jandreau told Male at the opening session that the union would not confine itself to community rates, as the community is not representative of the type of work done at the plant. The union presented information on higher rates paid by Mohawk Valley firms, in the Rochester-to-Poughkeepsie section which used to be the basis of the old GE community rate survey. The union also cited rates paid by competitors in the industry as a whole for comparable work.

Firms mentioned on the "community rate" list included General Cable at Rome, Remington-Rand at Ilion; International Business Machine and General Aniline and Chemical at Binghamton, Liberty Tool, Eastman Kodak, General Railway Signal and Delco Products (a GM plant), all at Rochester.

In the industry-wide survey Local 301 referred to the Westinghouse plant at East Pittsburgh, a "mother plant" occupying much the same position in the Westinghouse system as the Schenectady

GE plant does in the GE set-up; allied plants of Westinghouse at Mansfield, Ohio; South Philadelphia, Jersey City and Cleveland; Frigidaire at Dayton, Ohio, (a competitor of GE in refrigeration); Packard Electric at Warren, Ohio, and Sperry Gyroscope, New York City.

At the Monday session Male said Howell was prevented by other business from attending. Male himself plans to leave on a week's vacation today (Friday), he told the committee. Jandreau made it clear that the union will insist that all meetings must be with company representatives who actually have power to make decisions and agreements. Male said the company realizes that the craft workers do not want any unnecessary delay in the handling of these cases.

Rates of toolmakers, model makers, toolroom machine operators and machinists (non-production) were discussed Monday. Wednesday's session took up building trades, welders, millmen and related jobs.

4 More Raises

Wage gains were chalked up by UE for four additional shops at Minneapolis, Minn.

A 10-week strike at Twentieth Century Brass brought an increase of 11 1/2 cents an hour.

Smith System Heating Company employees won a 12 1/2 cent raise and negotiations with Stremel Manufacturing Company brought a boost of 12 cents.

Workers at R. R. Howell Company secured an 11 cent raise.