

New Place Needed For Food Center!

As the present quarters of the Local 301 Food Center at 1027 State St. will not be available after Feb. 1, the Food Price Committee is fighting against time in its efforts to find a new location.

James Cognetta, chairman, has again asked that union members who know suitable buildings to rent notify the union office or the committee at once.

Even if a place is found before Feb. 1, the process of moving and of preparing the new quarters will probably make it necessary to suspend operating the Center for a week or two. The longer the delay in finding a location the longer the delay will be in reopening the Center.

For the rest of January, of course, the usual schedule is in effect. The Center is open Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This week's big food news is a supply of oleo-margarine. The Food Center had been unable to get any for several weeks.

Union members and their families spent \$2,484.25 at the Center the day before New Year's; \$2,297.53 last Friday and \$3,644.28 Saturday. That totaled \$8,426.06 for the three-day period, a considerable increase over the Christmas week purchases.

The Center is finding it increasingly difficult to obtain food from wholesalers, due to pressure which chain stores and super-markets have put on the wholesalers. The committee is making a careful study of the whole situation to see what can be done.

Paint Shop Workers Get Wage Adjustment

The long-standing claim of the paint shop workers in Bldg. 77 to a wage adjustment was settled Tuesday when A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, agreed to a one-step increase for the jobs there. The settlement was tied to the recent similar raise won by the glyptal makers and varnish makers.

About 30 workers will get the raise, effective Dec. 29. Class A painters, tinters, and leaders are raised 5 cents. Class B painters, as well as compound mixers, are raised 4 cents.

Shop Steward Enoch Wassell had been pressing the case for about three years. In the final discussion he was assisted by Kermit Kapelle and Joseph Di Carlo, Board Member Joseph Mangino, and the union grievance committee.

Have You Received Your New Card?

UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO AND MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA
Affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations

Local 301

MEMBERSHIP CARD

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 1948

This card signifies that the member as named on the reverse side of this card, is having his dues checked off and is in good standing for the herein mentioned period.

1. This card replaces the membership book.
2. Cards issued by one local union shall not be recognized by any other local.
3. A member leaving the jurisdiction of the local, either as a transfer or withdrawal, must appear at the local office with his membership card, have his dues payments checked and receive a transfer or withdrawal whichever the case may be.

PLACE
INITIATION
STAMP
HERE

Andrew Peterson
PRESIDENT
Leo Jandreau
BUS. AGENT

Local 301 membership cards for the first three months of 1948, like the one shown above, were mailed last week to all members of the union. If your card hasn't arrived yet, fill out the form printed below, tear it out, and give it to your shop steward, or mail it or take it to the union office, 301 Liberty St. Please fill out the form if you aren't getting the national UE News or if your address has changed. Your shop-steward has a supply of the forms too.

- I DO NOT RECEIVE THE U. E. NEWS
I DID NOT RECEIVE A UNION CARD
PLEASE CHANGE MY ADDRESS

Name _____ Please Print
Address _____ Please Print
City _____ Please Print
Check No. _____ Shop Steward.

Union Gets Raise For Mirror Maker

Arthur Ramsey, who makes oscillograph mirrors in the Campbell Ave. plant, is the only man on that job. But his foreman told him recently he was Class B and had reached his top rate. He was put on the work in 1946 at \$3 1/2 cents an hour and had received step rate increases until he reached \$1.18.

Pressing a grievance in the case, Shop Steward William Coccozzali pointed out there is only one class for this work and the rate is \$1.45. The company agreed to advance Ramsey to \$1.30 through progression and to \$1.45 based on normal performance on this job.

Legislative Conference In Albany Tomorrow

Leo Jandreau is one of the sponsors of a statewide Citizens Legislative Conference called for tomorrow afternoon at the Ten Eyck Hotel Albany. The conference was arranged by 23 labor, political, civic, and religious leaders to plan a joint program of action on state legislative matters.

The Capital District CIO Council's Executive Board has asked CIO unions of the district to send delegates. Speakers at the conference will be featured in the CIO Council's broadcast at 9:30 p.m. Monday over WKOW. This is the first of a new weekly radio series.

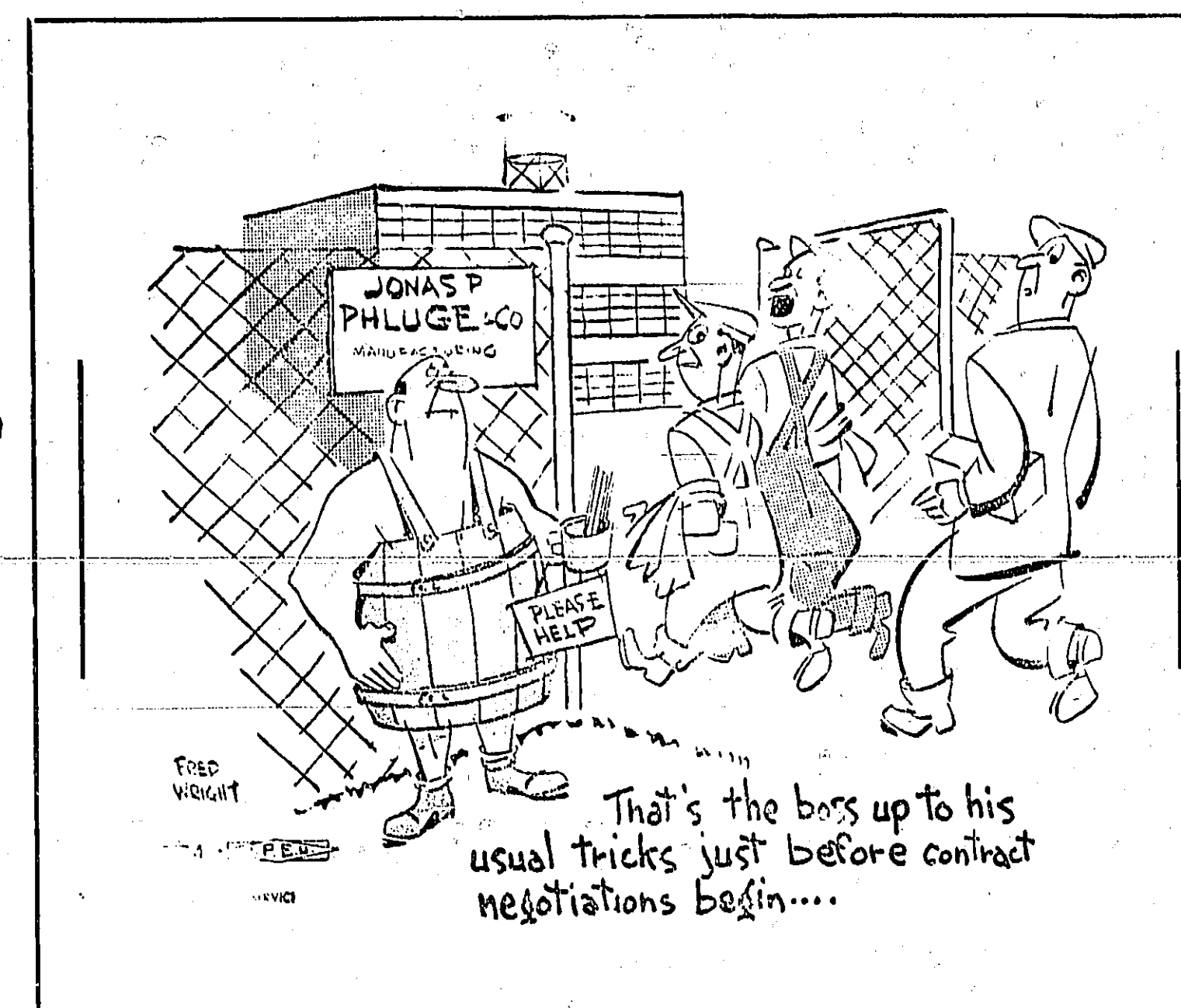
ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

January 16, 1948



Wage Structure Plan Is Sent to New York

Local 301 last Friday sent to New York for discussion at the national level the question of working out a complete wage structure to cover all jobs in the plant, after A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, told union negotiators he could not "see any reason for giving it favorable consideration."

The company had been studying the proposal for close to two months. Business Agent Leo Jandreau told Stevens that there was no point in discussing details of the proposal unless there first was agreement that a local wage structure should be worked out, as is the practice in most companies under UE contract, including GE's major competitors.

In a discussion lasting an hour and a half, Stevens contended he was opposing the union proposal not because of what it might cost in wage adjustments, but because it would "create more inequities."

Stevens claimed that the company's (Continued on Page 2)

Here's Real Story Behind GE Picture

Something new in negotiations on GE pensions:

The Works News of Jan. 2 carried a two-column picture of Leopoldo Gabriele retiring, turning over his job to another elevator operator. A smiling supervisor looked on.

This is what was omitted from the story: Brother Gabriele was retired against his will Dec. 1, after pleading that a \$80-a-month GE pension was no reason to retire these days. He is the sole support of himself and his wife. He is in good health and willing to work. The union has been arguing his case since early October, all the way to New York. The company stands on the position that the pension plan compels retirement at 65. The union claims this is nothing but an improper penalty because of age, and is trying to get the case to arbitration.

Weekly UE Broadcast

The national UE broadcast by Arthur Gaeth is at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday over WSNY, WRW and WBCA (PM).

UE Seeks Many Improvements In GE Contract

Strengthening of the contract provisions on hours, wages, piece prices, holidays, and grievance handling are among the principal proposals made by the GE Conference Board of UE locals for the 1948 negotiations.

The proposals also would add a guaranteed-weekly wage, paid-sick-leave, improved pensions, severance pay and an insurance plan.

Last week's issue of the EU News carried the story of the principal proposal, for a substantial wage raise. The conference board meeting incorporated in its proposals most of those submitted by the 301 membership. The entire set of proposals by the Conference board are being voted on by the GE locals now. They were scheduled to come before the 301 stewards Wednesday night, after this paper went to press. Negotiations are scheduled to start in February.

The proposals include:

On hours—8 hours' pay per day for workers on a shorter shift because of (Continued on Page 4)

301 Will Install Officers Tuesday

The Local 301 officers for 1948 will be installed at the joint meeting of the membership and the Shop Stewards' Council at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday, Jan. 20, at the union hall. Leo Jandreau will report on the proposals for the GE contract drawn up at the recent GE Conference Board of UE in New York City.

The Executive Board voted Tuesday that a full discussion of the presidential candidacy of Henry A. Wallace and the third party be placed near the beginning of the agenda of the Jan. 20 meeting. The Board recommended that the membership take no action on Wallace or the third party at this time, however.

Labor Takes Action In 31st District

Plans to elect a progressive Congressman in 1948 from the 31st District to replace Bernard W. Kearney, moved ahead last week when the PAC committee of the district met in Amsterdam and drew up a program.

The program, which is included as an insert in this week's EU News, was approved by the Local 301 Executive Board Tuesday and will be acted on by the combined membership and Shop Stewards' Council meeting next Tuesday, Jan. 20.

The district committee which wrote the program includes leaders of all CIO unions in the area and a representative of the Farmers' Union. The program will be placed before a general meeting of representatives of all CIO unions of the district later this month and will also be presented to the individual unions.

It's Easy Enough to See Why GE Stalls Contract

Two southern girls came to the GE Conference Board meeting last week, looking for help from other GE-UE members, and their story gives ample reason:

The two were delegates from the new GE lamp plant in Lexington, Kentucky, which has about 300 workers, mostly girls. About 75 percent of them are signed-up UE members. Yet the company refuses to recognize the union.

GE is trying to force a Taft-Hartley election and is ignoring the provision of the UE contract for using some other method of proving the union's right to represent the workers. The girls want a contract quickly, but they don't want any part of the anti-labor procedure of the Taft-Hartley Law.

The wage rates down there may explain both why the GE won't recognize the union, and why GE "decentralizes" to the South. The girls said the Common Labor rate in the Lexington plant is 86 cents, and inspectors get 77 cents.

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SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

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Appointed by Board



A. J. Spears, who was named chief steward of Bldg. 107, Grounds and Buildings, at the meeting of the Local 301 Executive Board Tuesday. The building is in the section represented by Frank Kriss, Board member.

Wage Structure Plan Is Sent to New York

(Continued from Page 1)

present set of rates was both clear and fair, and said that the old method of taking up individual job rates as grievances was adequate.

Jandreau pointed out that George Pfeif, of top management, had admitted the Schenectady wage structure was "out of kilter", although Pfeif blamed the union for this through increases it had won for groups and individuals. Jandreau declared rates here had "just grown", and that the only way to establish a fair relationship of rates was by negotiation of a complete wage structure. He said GE here could hardly be "the only one in step", when Westinghouse and most of industry accepted such negotiations.

Stevens contended that many jobs deserved lower pay than the common labor rate. The union committee cited examples of skilled jobs done by women, requiring considerable training, with job rates below that for common labor.

The union was represented by the Job Evaluation Committee of William Stewart, Eugene Lemoine, James Cognetta, Charles Ferris, Mary McCartin, Anthony Villano, Michael Tedisco, Alfred Pelrah and George Judway, in addition to President Andrew Peterson, Recording Secretary Helen Quirin, Jandreau and Victor Pasche, assistant.

Appeal to Kearney

The UE-CIO-301 Pension Organization voted at its January meeting to send a resolution to Congressman Bernard W. Kearney asking him to press for legislation to increase and liberalize Social Security payments and to use his influence toward getting the GE pension plan improved. The pensioners also heard a report by Leo Jandreau on 1948 contract proposals.

Observe Safety Rules, But Don't Sign Receipt

Inquiries have been made at the union office as to a safety booklet being distributed in the works, with a slip which workers are asked to sign that they "agree" to follow the safety instructions. Workers have asked if they should sign the receipt.

Local 301 is very much in favor of following the safety rules, and urges workers to read the booklet. It is not advisable to sign the receipt form. Conditions of work are governed by the union contract, and there is no need for individual "agreements" to do something.

The union believes that the accident rate, which is too high at the Schenectady plant, could be cut down if more provision was made to let an operator look over his job, before he starts working on it, to make sure of doing it the safe way, as well as the efficient way.

Petitions on Rem-Rand Will Be Sent to Dewey

Signatures were gathered rapidly in the Schenectady GE shops this week on petitions urging Governor Dewey to take action in the Remington-Rand crisis, to influence the company to live up to its agreements with UE and start contract negotiations.

The latest Remington-Rand moves against the union took place recently at Herkimer. The entire Stewards' Council at the Rem-Rand Library Bureau received two warning notices against trying to present any grievance cases. Management announced that when a third notice is issued "we'll fire all of you."

UE District 3 has sent an appeal to UE locals for donations to a Remington-Rand defense fund to prepare for any emergency.

GE Expects Too Much Of Its Comic Strip

After trying to sell the Taft-Hartley Law to its employees as "good for labor" through articles in Works News, GE tried to do this job by a colored comic strip.

What makes the company think workers will believe GE's campaign material—however expensive—or the GE statements about "it's all for your own good"?

It wasn't so long ago that GE spent a lot of money on another campaign to convince people that removing price controls would solve their problems.

MAKE YOUR SHOP 100% UE.

Union Helps Better Traffic Conditions

Protests by the Local 301 Transportation Committee played a large part in obtaining several recent improvements in bus service and traffic conditions.

The Schenectady Railway Company Monday installed a new bus shop trip at 7:07 a.m. from Campbell Ave. and Twelfth St. to the GE subway gate and a return trip at 4:10 p.m. from the gate, along this new route.

Monday also marked the start of six additional bus trips mornings from Elbert St. and State St. to GE and six additional return trips in the late afternoon rush.

Parking Restrictions

The city traffic commission Jan. 8 ordered emergency parking restrictions during peak hours in lower State St. and certain other sections.

This action was taken after Mayor Owen M. Begley and City Manager Arlen T. St. Louis met Jan. 7 with representatives of CIO unions and the railway company. Mayor Begley said an emergency parking ban would be imposed and that objections of 20 or 30 merchants should not interfere with ending the traffic bottleneck, which delays thousands of workers from returning to their homes. He promised to supply extra police if necessary to enforce the no parking rules.

Will Write to GE

Mayor Begley said he would send a letter to Wendell Nelson of GE to find out why late afternoon buses, from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. are held up at the plant when they are loaded until most of the passenger cars are out of the GE grounds.

Mary McCartin, Anthony Villano and Willard Kuschel represented 301 at the conference. The meeting was called at the request of union members, after a conference that morning with railway officials. A. Frank Geiler of the railway company said that traffic engineers from General Motors Corporation are in Schenectady making a survey to figure out the best routes and schedules.

Good Work

Members using the works parking lot, who have in the past complained about conditions there, last week were praising the Grounds and Buildings department for the outstanding job done of clearing away the recent heavy snowfall in short order.

Jandreau Statement On Wallace Issue

The following statement was made by Leo Jandreau on the recent action of the State CIO Executive Board in opposing Henry A. Wallace's presidential candidacy on a third party ticket.

"As the member of the State CIO Executive Board representing the UE membership in New York State, I think it is proper that I let the membership know my stand on the action taken by the State Executive Board in Albany Jan. 5, against the third party candidacy of Henry A. Wallace.

"I was unable to attend the meeting, because of the GE Conference Board meeting which opened the same day in New York. If I had been in Albany, I would have spoken and voted against the Hollander resolution.

"It appears to me very wrong for the State CIO to have acted before there was time for discussion of this very important question by the member unions.

"I am not now taking a stand on the third party issue. But there is no reason to attack a man like Henry Wallace, who more clearly than any one in public life today has proven his wholehearted devotion to the farmers and industrial workers of America, and to the program of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

"Whether Mr. Wallace or someone else should be supported for president by Local 301 is for the 301 membership to decide, and I believe it is so important that it should be decided only after considerable discussion.

"All of us have been deeply concerned by what has happened in Washington since the death of FDR—the successive removal of all New Dealers from the administration and their replacement by Wall Street bankers and brass hats. We have been concerned by government strikebreaking in the Railroad, Marine and Miners' strikes, by the surrender to Big Business, and the failure of the Democratic party to put up a real opposition to the Taft-Hartley law.

"It is up to our membership to find the answer to these questions, and to decide the local's stand after full consideration of all practical angles, and through rank-and-file discussion."

March of Dimes

The Executive Board voted Tuesday to endorse the March of Dimes drive.

Payments Completed For Children's Gift

Payments were completed this week for the movie projector for the Schenectady Children's Home, through collections made by shop stewards under Board Members Edward J. LaBombard, Jr., Henry Busse and Michael Tedisco.

Local 301 has received a letter of thanks from the institution. The Executive Board voted Tuesday to buy four movie reels for the children and gave a vote of thanks to Board Member Willard Kuschel for starting the campaign of voluntary contributions for the movie equipment.

301 Board Favors Electing All Stewards at One Time

The Local 301 Executive Board voted Tuesday to recommend to the Constitution Committee that changes be made in the constitution to provide that all shop stewards be elected at the same time in early January.

Under the Board's proposal, the 301 Election Committee, which supervises the election of officers, would also have charge of the election of shop stewards. Executive Board members would be elected after the shop stewards are chosen.

CIO Council Prepares Legislative Broadcast

Developments in the first 10 days of the 1948 state Legislature will be discussed on the weekly radio program of the Capital District CIO Council at 9:30 p.m. Monday over WROW.

The opening program this week was devoted to an interview, by wire recorder, with leaders of the New York State Citizens' Legislative Conference conducted Saturday in Albany.

How Embarrassing

A federal grand jury in Los Angeles this week reported an indictment accusing the General Electric Company of conspiring with Westinghouse and other companies to keep prices high.

The indictment was announced three days after the GE paper, Works News, printed telegrams and letters congratulating GE on its recent 5 per cent reduction on electric blankets, television receivers and some other products.

UE District Meetings

A meeting of the Executive Board of UE District 3 was scheduled for Wednesday of this week and the UE District Council for yesterday in Albany.

New York Meeting On Compensation

At a conference last week in New York City with Mary H. Donlon, chairman of the State Workmen's Compensation Board, Leo Jandreau and Michael Perlin, UE District 3 attorney, discussed procedures at the Schenectady GE plant.

Miss Donlon said she will look into the problems called to her attention by the union. The conference was the result of a number of compensation cases now being handled by the Local 301 attorney, Leon Novak, and Mr. Perlin. Some of these cases have been reopened after claims were originally disallowed.

Jandreau invited Miss Donlon to attend a meeting of the Shop Stewards' Council to speak on compensation and to hear the experiences and ideas of the stewards. She accepted the bid and the date of her Schenectady visit will be fixed later.

UE Seeks Improvements In '48 GE Contract

(Continued from Page 1)

three-shift operation; include continuous process workers in general overtime provisions; double time after 12 hours' work; reporting time pay to be 8 hours.

On holidays—Add Washington's Birthday and Election Day to paid holidays; remove limitations on pay; pay double time and a half for work on holidays.

On wages—Make it clear that complete set of wage rates can be negotiated locally (as Local 301 is now seeking to do); no rate to be less than common labor rate; set rates on what job consists of, not on whether done by man or woman nor on location of plant; raises to top for any job at intervals of not more than six months.

On piece work—Prices to be set so piece workers can earn 20 per cent above day rate; piece worker to be guaranteed the day rate; full pay for rework where operator is not at fault; temporary price automatically to become standard in six months; increased earnings where changed method means increased effort; average earnings to be paid for waiting time.

Other Subjects Covered

Other proposals include vacations of 3 weeks after 15 years and 4 weeks after 25 years; setting up of an apprenticeship system for the various crafts; provision for upgrading of workers by notifying the union of openings before hiring from the outside; strengthening of

Attend State Citizens' Legislative Conference



Members of Local 301 who attended the New York State Citizens' Legislative Conference at Albany Saturday included these five, shown studying the proposals on labor legislation. Seated, left to right, Albert Davis, Board member, and Leo Jandreau, one of the sponsors of the meeting and chairman of the labor panel. Standing, Willard Kuschel, Charles Peerris and Fred Pacelli, Board members.

seniority and lay-off provisions; crediting time lost through plant accidents to length of service, and restoration of lost past service after a worker is back for one year; severance pay depending on length of service.

The union also proposes that the grievance procedure be changed to allow additional steps in which to settle a dispute in the shop, and compulsory arbitration where a dispute is not settled.

Another change would make it clear that a worker cannot be fired without just cause.

Another proposal would forbid any discrimination because of race, color, creed, or national origin. Because of the Taft-Hartley law, the maintenance of membership provision will be dropped, and the union proposes a voluntary check-off by individual designation.

301 Member Dies

George Krick, inspector in Bldg. 273 and a member of Local 301, died at his home in Schenectady Saturday from a heart ailment. Shop stewards in his building took up a collection to give his family.

No Place Found Yet For Food Center

There's still no place for the Local 301 Food Center to move Feb. 1 when it has to leave 1027 State St. Anyone who knows a suitable building to rent is urged to notify the union office immediately.

Special attractions this week at the Center include butter at 87 cents a pound; oleo-margarine at 39 cents, and Grade A large eggs at 69 cents a dozen. There's a new supply of apples and by request the Center has obtained marshmallows.

The 301 Executive Board voted Tuesday to recommend to the membership that the Food Center be continued for the duration of the high-cost-of-living emergency.

Last week union families spent \$9,236.54 at the Center: \$2,335.57 Thursday; \$3,565.07 Friday and \$3,335.90 Saturday.

The Center will be open as usual next week from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday.

PAC Program 1948 31st Congressional District

The undersigned committee, elected recently by representatives of CIO unions in the 31st Congressional District, submit to the CIO unions in their district the program below.

We propose that this program be the basis for action by the local unions in deciding upon a candidate for Congressman who will represent all the people.

The delegates who elected us were unanimous in their feeling that the present Congressman has worked in the interest of Big Business, instead of representing his constituents — the industrial workers, farmers, small busi-

ness and professional people of Schenectady, Montgomery, Hamilton, Fulton and Otsego Counties.

A meeting of representatives of all CIO locals in the district will be held later this month to act on this program.

We feel that this is the program of the great Franklin D. Roosevelt, expanded to cover the situation now facing the people. We feel that this program should receive the unqualified support of any candidate who seeks the backing of the common people of our district.

Respectfully submitted,

FRED KROKENBERGER, Business Manager, Amsterdam Joint Board, Textile Workers Union of America; Chairman

ROBERT NORTHROP, Sec'y Treas., Capital District CIO Council; Secretary

ANTHONY F. BARBIERI, President, Local 2054, United Steelworkers of America

LEWIS A. BENEDICT, President, Local 159, Transport Workers Union of America

CLARENCE CARR, President, Local 202, International Fur and Leather Workers Union

LEONARD COLASUONO, President, Local 432, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America

LEO JANDREAU, Business Agent, Local 301, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America

LOUIS SLOCUM, Northeastern Division, Farmers Union.

January 13, 1948

PROGRAM

I — 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 businessmen.
3. Expose profiteering in price spread between farmer and consumer.
4. Prohibit speculation on the grain exchange.

II — 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.

III — 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.

(Continued Over)