

Nomination Of Officers At Monday Meeting Key To Rank-And-File Unionism In Local 301

Our membership meeting on Nov. 19 must carry out one of the key steps in the democratic procedure of Local 301. That is the nomination of candidates for election to Union office.

So that every member of Local 301 shall be fully acquainted with the procedures to be followed, we hereby re-print those clauses of our Local 301 Constitution which govern the manner in which candidates are nominated and elected:

ARTICLE XVIII

Nomination and Election of Officers

SECTION A—

At least 10 days prior to the November meeting of the local, the Recording Secretary shall notify the members that nominations for Officers shall be held at the November membership meeting. The election shall be held in the Union hall during the first two weeks of December at a date set by the Election Committee. Installation of officers will be in the month of January.

SECTION B—

Nominations for office shall be made from the floor at the regular November meeting of the local.

SECTION C—

The order of nominations shall be President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Assistant Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Steward, Business Agent, Trustees, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Guide.

SECTION D—

Only members in good standing, and who have been members in good standing for at least one year immediately preceding the day of the November membership meeting of the Union shall be eligible for office. No member shall be eligible to hold office in the local union, who is a member of the Communist Party, or

who consistently pursues policies and activities toward the achievement of the program or the purposes of the Communist Party, or of any other totalitarian or fascist organization.

SECTION E—

No member may be a candidate for more than one office.

(The Constitution also provides for supervision of the election to guarantee rank-and-file democracy. In that regard, the Constitution states:)

SECTION H—

At the regular meeting of the Local in November, the Election Committee of 25 members shall be elected from the floor. No candidate for office as enumerated in Section C of this article shall be a member of the Election Committee. The Recording Secretary shall call for the first meeting of the Election Committee within 4 days after the said meeting of the Local. At its first meeting the Election Committee shall elect a chairman and secretary by a majority vote of the committee members present. Fifteen members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION I—

The Election Committee shall conduct and supervise the local elections; determine in accordance with the constitution the eligibility of the

nominees and of members voting; determine the time when the voting shall take place; prepare and distribute sample and regular ballots; count the ballots cast immediately after the polling place is closed; certify the number of votes cast for each candidate; tabulate the number of persons who voted in the election and the number of blank and mutilated ballots.

All ballots shall be kept under seal for not less than 30 days following the election. All expenditures incurred by the Committee shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

The Election Committee, if possible, shall furnish voting machines in place of paper ballots. The names of candidates for office shall appear on the ballot in an order chosen by lot. If a voting machine is used for the elections, two or more candidates not running for the same office may mutually agree to appear on one line on the election machine ballot. The position of such line for groups of candidates or individual candidates shall be determined by lot. When two or more candidates agree to appear on one line on the election machine ballot, one of the candidates of such group shall pick by lot to determine the position in behalf of all the other candidates in his group. Not more than three candidates for trustees shall appear on the same line. Lines on the voting machine shall be designated by letters only; no insignias, slogans or emblems shall be used.

SECTION J—

Only members in good standing at the time of the November membership meeting shall be allowed to vote in the election.

SECTION K—

Each presidential candidate shall be authorized to appoint 3 watchers. The watchers may examine the voting machines or voting booths immediately prior to the opening of the election and subsequent thereto, and while the election is being held. They may be present when the canvass is taken.

(Our Local 301 Constitution also provides for the election of an Audit Committee, composed of three rank-and-file members of the Union, who are charged with making an audit of the books each year, in addition to that audit of the Trustees. This Committee will also be elected at our Nov. 19 meeting. Here is what the Constitution states regarding the duties of the Audit Committee:)

ARTICLE XII

Duties of Trustees

SECTION C—

The Trustees shall also retain the services of a Certified Public Accountant to audit the financial accounts of the Union, together with a committee of 3 (not officers or committeemen) elected at large from the membership. This audit shall be taken once a year, prior to the election of officers, and a complete report made to the membership and turned over to the incoming officers. This audit may also be taken upon request of the General Meeting of Shop Stewards at any time of retirement or recall of any officer who has been entrusted with the handling of funds of the Union. The expense of those audits shall be borne by the Union.

Those are the pertinent clauses from our Constitution regarding the nomination and election of Union Officers. During the next month, then, all the members of Local 301 will have an opportunity to express their wishes in a free and democratic manner.

This is YOUR Union. You SHOULD vote.

Keeping The Record Straight

The Nov. 9 issue of the GE News has a big headline and story about the new GE insurance plan. Its first anniversary was last Thursday.

GE gives it a big buildup. Says the plan is "rich in benefits and advantages."

It is. But you know how you got it? The Union negotiated it for you!

That's how you got it. But GE would never tell you that. After all, that is the very essence of Boulwarism—to try to make you believe that everything you get is out of the goodness of old Lemuel's heart.

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

Vol. 2 — No. 35

The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y.

November 30, 1956

Van Guysling Avenue Property Being Sold At A Profit By Local 301

Before test borings showed that the property purchased by Local 301 for a Union building had no solid ground down to 63 feet below the surface, the Union paid \$16,000 for 350 feet of land on Van Guysling Avenue.

The present site on Erie Boulevard was then purchased by the local. Thereupon, the Union set out to sell the land it owned on Van Guysling Avenue.

The average cost to the Union for the Van Guysling Avenue land was \$45.70 per foot. To date, the Union has already sold and received deposits on the sale of 270 feet of the land at a selling price of \$50.00 per foot and is now nego-

tiating the sale of the remainder at the same price.

This will gross a profit of \$4.30 for each of the 350 feet being sold. Passing of title on the property sold will take place in the next few days as arranged between the Union's lawyers and the lawyers for the purchasers.

The total amount received from these sales will be used, of course, towards the cost of constructing the Union's new meeting hall.

Incidentally, the sale of this land at a profit was made successfully by representatives of the Union despite the present depressed real estate values in the City of Schenectady.

Local Pressing GE For Justice in # 85

Local 301 is continuing to fight to win justice for the 131 employees of Bldg. 85 who are the victims of Boulware's disgraceful "Iron Fist" policy.

As we go to press, a meeting is scheduled this morning (Thursday) with management to try to get agreement on the wording of the Arbitration statement that will be submitted to the Arbitrator.

Already, two such meetings have been held. At the first one, the big bosses of GE and their "Philadelphia lawyers" had a patently phony offer ready. It was immediately rejected by Business Agent Jandreau, who recognized the gimmicks in the wording.

A second meeting was held last Wednesday. At that time, GE offered an improved version, but the Business Agent still would not "buy" it, because it was obviously "loaded" in favor of GE. Jandreau pointed out that it made no mention whatsoever of the out-and-out violations of our agreements by GE.

The Business Agent reported that he hoped to get a satisfactory (Continued on Page 2)

POLLS OPEN NOON DECEMBER 6th TO 6 P.M. DECEMBER 7th — Be Sure To Vote!

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	PRESIDENT	VICE-PRESIDENT	RECORDING SECRETARY	ASSISTANT RECORDING SECRETARY	TREASURER	CHIEF SHOP STEWARD	BUSINESS AGENT	TRUSTEES			SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	GUIDE
	Vote for 1	Vote for 1	Vote for 1	Vote for 1	Vote for 1	Vote for 1	Vote for 1	Vote for 3			Vote for 1	Vote for 1
A	JAMES J. Cognetta	JOSEPH Alois	LARRY Gebo	HOWARD McLean	WILLIAM Christman	BILLY Mastriani	LEO Jandreau	WILLIAM Garrison	MARY Bartlette	RICHARD Jendreski	WILLIAM Linka	CHARLES Ferris
B	HARRY Williams	JULIUS Thomas	EARL Coons	MICHAEL Rakvicka	GERALD O'Brien	VINCENT DiLorenzo	SERAFIN Pita	VINCENT Palazeke	JOHN Smith	WILLIAM Templeton	ANDERS Christensen	BERNARD Fasula
C	CARMINE DiGirolamo											



DEMOCRACY IN ACTION—This was the crowd that jammed Union Headquarters for the Nov. 19 meeting. Crew at table in front are tallying the votes for the election committee.

Voting starts at noon, Dec. 6. Polls will remain open for 30 consecutive hours, until 6 p.m. Dec. 7. Voting will take place in Union Headquarters, where voting machines will be provided.

Company has agreed to grant a half-hour leeway to employees at their lunch-time breaks, if they are going to vote. Of course, the company will not pay you for this half-hour lost time; it only agreed not to count it as tardiness.

Announcement of these facts was made by the Election Committee after its first meeting Nov. 21. At that meeting the committee elected John Saccocio Chairman and Pat Donato Secretary.

The committee also announced that election of Shop Stewards will take place Dec. 17 and 18. A representative of the committee will be present in each department to set up the nominations and elections of all Stewards.

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301,
REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY
GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee

President.....James J. Cognetta
Vice President.....Joseph Alois
Treasurer.....Joseph Whitbeck
Recording Secretary.....Larry Gebo
Ass't Recording Secretary.....Allan E. Townsend
Chief Shop Steward.....William Mastriani
Business Agent.....Leo Jandreau
121 ERIE BLVD. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

Membership and Stewards Meeting

Monday, Nov. 19, 1956

1st and 3rd Shifts—7:30 p.m.

2nd Shift—1:00 p.m.

At Union Hall, 121 Erie Blvd.

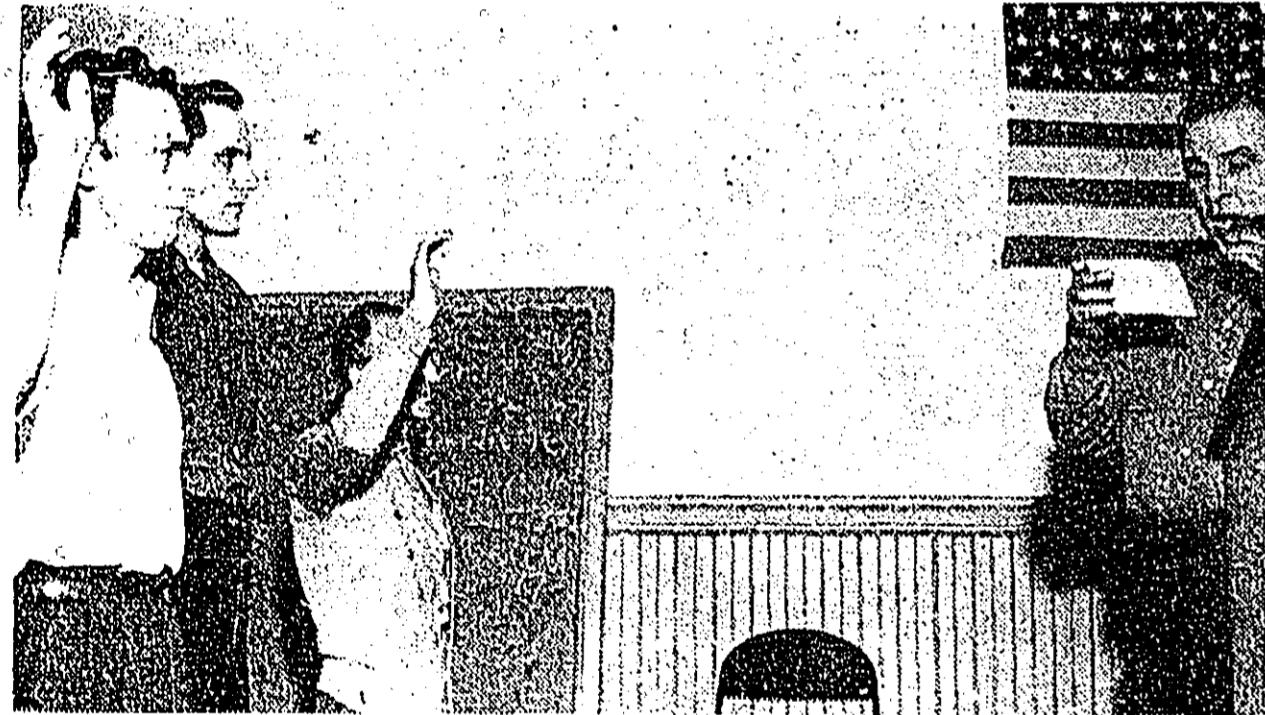
BUSINESS

Nomination of Officers
Election of Audit Committee
Election of Election Committee
Report of Committees
Regular Order of Business

New Stewards



OATH OF OFFICE is taken by new Stewards at the Nov. 19th meetings. Swearing them in is Chief Steward Bill Mastriani. Above (l to r) are those sworn in at the 7:30 meeting: John Martucci (273), Betty Herman (17), and Chester F. Salinski (269). Absent when the picture was taken were John Obercon (81), John Grabo (273), Thomas Nealon (40-B) and Joseph Flory (273). Below are three new Stewards from the 2nd shift — Fred Blackman (Campbell Avenue #5), Bill Marrow (16) and John DiMaggio (9).

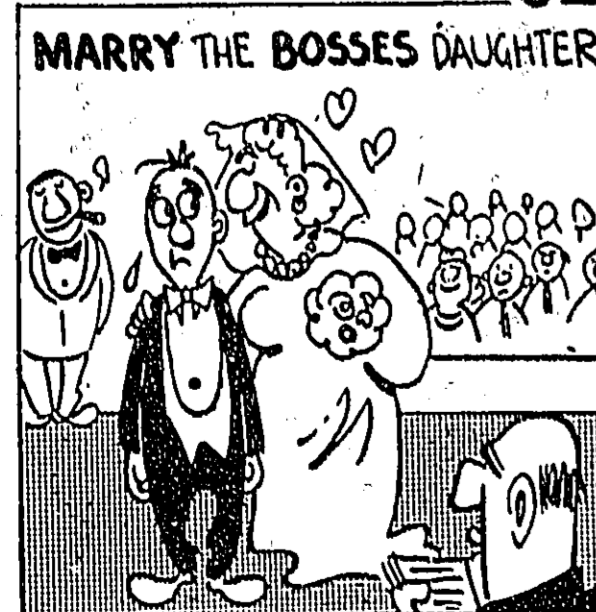


Xmas Party To Be Held In New Hall For Job Security:

The Local 301 Children's Christmas Party has been changed from Dec. 16th to the 23rd, it was announced today by the Activities Committee.

The date was advanced by one week, the committee said, so that the party can be held in the Auditorium of the new Union Hall. This will enable the party to be held in more adequate and accessible surroundings.

The trusses for the auditorium roof arrived last week. Thus, it is possible for the contractor to finish the auditorium sufficiently by the 23rd for the big party to be held there, instead of in the present hall.



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Union Lawyers Help 268 Injured Workers, Obtain \$200,000.00

In the eleven months of 1956, to date, injured members of Local 301 attended 1348 court hearings represented by the Union's lawyers, Leon Novak and Harvey Diamond. A substantial number of these hearings were held in Albany, Amsterdam, Troy, Saratoga as well as Schenectady and even involved a number of hearings in New York City where the attorneys had to appear.

Representing the General Electric Company in these court hearings were five trained specialists in Workmen's Compensation assisted by a staff of investigators. Local 301 cannot afford to hire assistants to the two lawyers but must rely on their efforts, including night preparation of cases, for success in winning benefits for injured workers.

Hundreds of workers filed claims through the Union's lawyers seeking to protect their rights to medical care needed at the time of the filing of the claim and medical care which might be needed in years to come.

These workers elected to work despite their disabilities and hence they are not included in the figures of \$200,000.00 in cash benefits paid to other injured workers covered in this report. However, the injured workers who won the right to medical care imposed an expense upon the company which probably exceeded even the cash benefits paid directly to the injured workers.

Those injured workers who received cash awards in the past 11 months, numbered 268 and came from almost every department of the company.

FIVE WORKERS RECEIVE \$5,000.00 EACH

Of the 268 workers included in these figures, five received awards of more than \$5000.00 each. Others also received sizeable awards. The following table will give an idea of the awards paid by General Electric to workers represented by the Union's lawyers:

Amount Received	No. of Workers Receiving This Sum
\$5000 to \$10,000	5
3000 to 5,000	6
1000 to 3,000	34
500 to 1,000	54
Under \$500.00	169
TOTAL	268

Other important cases handled by the Union lawyers involved several suits for death benefits to be paid to the widows and minor children of workers who died as a result of injuries or occupational diseases. Still other cases, not shown in the figures above, involved injured workers whose cases were won and therefore removed from any further court hearings because the workers involved are permanently disabled from work and will now be paid benefits for the remainder of their lives.

Although no worker desires to be injured, every member of Local 301 knows that in the event of such an unfortunate occurrence to him he does not have to face a large staff of General Electric compensation specialists without representation by trained lawyers representing the Union.

UNION'S LAWYERS REPRESENT LOCAL ON OTHER IMPORTANT LEGAL MATTERS

Besides representing the individual members of the Union when such members are injured, the Union's lawyers also represent the local on other important matters as part of the services rendered by them.

These included in 1956, passing on title of land purchased and sold by Local 301 involving also the preparation of legal documents and handling of the transactions; preparation of construction contracts and supervision of contractor and architect's agreements; setting up corporations; dealings with the City authorities involving these transactions and also of surveys.

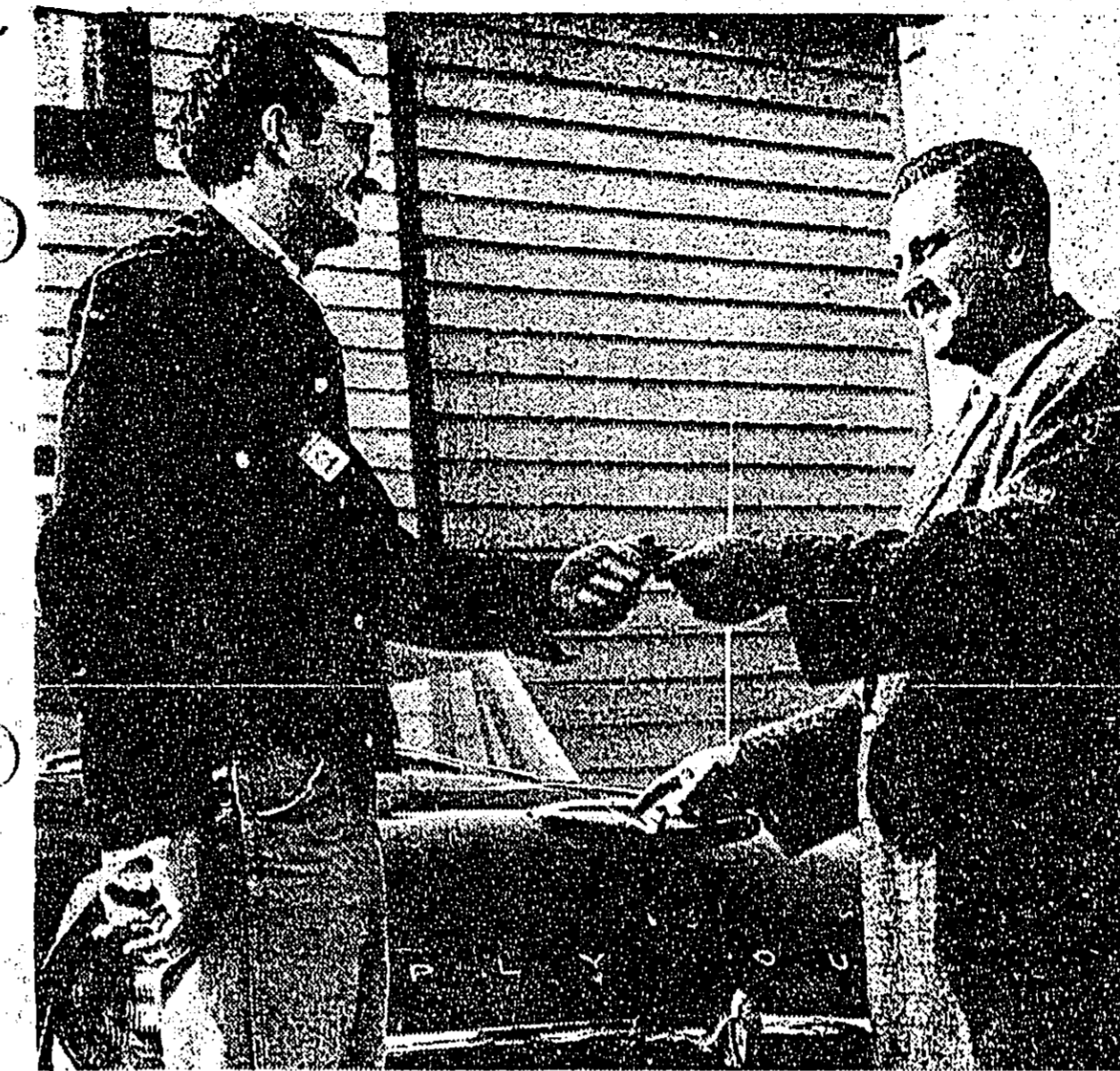
These matters are aside from the calls put upon the lawyers by Board members and shop Stewards and individuals for legal help, arising from day to day problems, including Labor Laws, Social Security, Unemployment Insurance Benefits, and many other matters.

Local Pressing GE For Justice in #85

(Continued from Page 1)

"stipulation" (statement of the facts) at the Thursday meeting. But if GE refuses to make an honest "stipulation", that, too, may have to be submitted to the Arbitrator.

Under the Contract improvements won by IUE in last year's negotiations, GE is required to submit this problem to Arbitration if requested by either party.



MOST HAPPY FELLA—is Albert Lawyer as he receives the keys to the new Plymouth that was Grand Prize in the Christmas Party Raffle. So there's no question, that's Brother Lawyer left. The smile on Roy Schaffer's face would make you think he won it. But the Office Manager is only presenting the keys.

THREE LUCKY GUYS!

There were three Most Happy Fellas who headed in to work at GE Nov. 20. Names: Albert Lawyer, Stanley Vedder and F. Baier.

Happy because — although they were not present at the Nov. 19 membership meeting — they won the prizes in the Union Christmas Party Raffle.

And Most Happy of All was Albert Lawyer. He won the new Plymouth Sedan that was top prize.

Not present for the drawing, Brother Lawyer "thought the guys were kidding when they told me later that night I had won". It wasn't 'til the next morning, when Office Manager Roy Schaffer called him that he knew he was the lucky guy.

Brother Lawyer, who lives at 1721 Hamburg St., is a waxer on the second shift in Office Facilities, Bldg. 5. The lucky card number, drawn by Sheriff Harold Calkins, was 9221.

Winner of the Portable T-V was Stanley Vedder of 701 Draper Ave.



WHICH ONE WILL IT BE? That's the key question as Sheriff Harold Calkins reaches for a ticket that will win the new Plymouth. In short remarks after the drawing, the Sheriff said he was "glad to come here, where I am among friends".

The vacuum cleaner went to F. Baier of 817 Harrison Avenue.



SECOND SHIFTERS—This was the turn-out from the 2nd shift as big crowds checked into Union Headquarters Nov. 19 to make nominations for Union Officers.

GE LOVES VIRGINIA!

*Oh, carry me down to Ole Virginny,
Down to the land where cotton and
corn and 'taters grow;
Oh, carry me down to Ole Virginny,
Down to the land of the Seab Laws
that I love so.*

—Lem Boulware's theme song.

There is no question today why GE loves Virginia . . . why GE has moved thousands of jobs out of Schenectady to start them out from scratch in the Shenandoah Valley.

The reason is very clear: the move means millions of dollars more in profits for the big bankers in New York who control the General Electric empire.

The reason became very clear on Nov. 14th when GE again showed the world that by moving to Virginia it has escaped its obligation to pay decent wages. For on that date, the employes in GE's new Industry Control Department in Roanoke, Virginia voted to have Lem Boulware as their guardian over wages and working conditions instead of IUE-AFL-CIO as their bargaining agent.

The vote in the NLRB election was: No union—144; IUE—406.

This election came about three months after another election in the Waynesboro, Virginia plant (also Industry Control) in which GE also succeeded in fast-talking the employes out of a Union.

How did GE do it?

The answer is Boulwarism. Pure and simple Boulwarism! The very same technique GE has been using here in Schenectady to undermine the Union, smear the Union representatives, and discredit the Union in the eyes of the employes and the community.

Every day (just like in Schenectady) the GE propaganda mill was turning out two or more "Bulletins", "News Flashes", "Reports", etc., clubbing the Union and painting such a touching picture of Boulware that—if it were true—would qualify Lemuel for Sainthood.

"Strike", "Strike", "Strike", was all GE could holler.

According to GE, the only thing IUE members ever do is "Strike". And especially in Schenectady! GE made the Roanoke people think that the Schenectady GE workers were the "worst", for—according to the GE propagandists—the Schenectady workers never did anything but engage in "illegal stoppages".

That's the technique. That's how GE does it—along with all its captive audience meetings and other methods of "persuasion".

Just before the election, GE even issued a 40-page booklet, printed in three colors, telling the people about a "STRIKE" (always in bold-face capital letters). But GE didn't even bother to tell the Roanoke workers that it was NOT an IUE strike.

Nor did GE tell the people that in its 20 years in Schenectady, Local 301 had only ONE strike, that being right after World War II when every Big Business in the country forced the people out on strike so the companies could juggle their War Profits Taxes and make millions without turning out a single piece of production.

That was the pitch in Roanoke. In Waynesboro, GE was even worse. There the company pitted race against race, religion against religion, and turned on "the heat" as never before.

As a result, the GE workers in Roanoke, Waynesboro and Lynchburg (the third new GE plant in that Virginia valley, all within a radius of 80 miles) are doing the same jobs that used to be done in Bldgs. 73 and 285 for 50c to 60c an hour LESS than the jobs were done here in Schenectady.

Is there any question now why GE President Cordiner says: "We like Virginia"?