

Program for Schenectady

The following is the program for Schenectady which was drawn up by the Legislative Committee of Local 301 which is designed to meet most adequately, the needs of the citizens of this community as well as the members of this union.

Jobs

Full support for local efforts to bring new industries to Schenectady. Encourage existing industry to expand its production and employment. Set up a Job Planning Committee; the Common Council to take the lead in building a committee which is made up of representatives of management, labor and the public.

Price Control

Continued and increased support for the national price control program. Passage of a local price control ordinance to strengthen enforcement of price regulations.

Veterans

Full support for existing veterans' legislation and amendments to provide such benefits as these: (1) medical care at convenient public and private institutions at Government expense, where Veterans' Administration facilities are inadequate or unavailable; (2) low rent housing facilities; (3) loans at interest rates not exceeding 2 percent; (4) unemployment benefits for full period of involuntary unemployment; (5) the term "veteran" to be defined to include those serving in the Merchant Marine, Red Cross and similar Wartime Services. Obviously, much more will be required.

Education and Recreation

Improvement and expansion of all existing educational facilities, with particular attention to the needs of adults and returning veterans. More and better equipment and increased personnel for all year public recreation.

Wages

Bring wages of city employees into line with wages paid for similar work in the community. Support for such wage increases as may be required to compensate for increases in the cost of living, shorter hours, change of jobs, down-grading, etc.

Unions

Full support to all efforts for peaceful relations between labor and management, such as the "Labor-Management Code of Principles" endorsed by the United States Chamber of Commerce, the AFL, and the CIO; equal treatment of all, in every department of city life, regardless of race, religion or national origin.

Social Security

Active support for and public education on the revised Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill, which would amend the Social Security Act to provide for a 10-year program of new hospitals, health centers, etc., grants to states for health services, maternal and child welfare, aid to the aged, blind, dependent children, etc. The bill would also increase unemployment benefits and extend the benefit period to 26 weeks; it would include special personal health insurance and retirement disability and survivors' allowances at a minimum of \$20 a month and a maximum of \$120.

Federal and State Aid to Community

Recognition and support of the need for increased federal and state aid to education and projects serving the Community; and an increased share of state collected taxes to be returned to the city of Schenectady.

Building and Construction

- 1. Build a downtown auditorium with equipment for large and small public meetings, to be available without charge to all groups of Schenectady people.
2. Remove present sub-standard housing and build low rent homes to be occupied by Schenectady families, without discrimination as to race, religion, national origin or political affiliation.
3. Provide a new health center for the city, with full facilities for medical, dental and child health care.
4. A comprehensive program of highway and street improvement, with plans for re-routing of truck traffic.
5. An adequate flood control program.
6. Expand Airport facilities to establish Schenectady as a regional station on main lines.
7. Construct a central market place with facilities to accommodate farmers bringing their produce to the city.

Truman's Wage-Price Position Favorable to Labor But Fails To Provide Solution to Problem

The wage-price speech of President Truman was to most union people good, inasmuch as the President gave official recognition to the facts this and other unions have been arguing for months, but was weak in that it leaves the solution of the wage problem exactly where it was before.

That is, unions demanding a just wage increase without permitting run-away prices that would lead to inflation and industry sticking to its determination not to grant increases unless the lid is taken off prices further swelling its enormous profits. The sincerity of the President cannot be questioned but the effectiveness of his proposed solution of the wage-price problem is very favorable profit position that industry finds itself in today.



PRESIDENT TRUMAN

doubtful when the attitude and present actions of industry are considered.

Highlights of the President's speech were these: He told the country that millions of workers have suffered "a deep cut" in their pay envelope and that "wage increases are therefore imperative."

The President said also that while positions of different industries vary greatly, "there is room in existing price structure for business as a whole to grant wage increases." He also spoke of the

very favorable profit position that industry finds itself in today. (General Electric's position is among the best with the greatest profits in its history.)

Truman then, in effect, told industry and labor to agree on wage increases through collective bargaining. Collective bargaining is the all important backbone of labor-management relations as we know them today. Throughout the history of Local 301, all grievances, problems and even wage increases have been negotiated satisfactorily through collective bargaining. It is not the desire

to abandon the method of settling differences now. However it takes two to make a bargain. When companies like GE and others just say, "we won't talk about wage increases unless we get what we want first" that isn't and there can not be collective bargaining. The President did do exactly the right thing on the matter of pending labor legislation. He first told of the urgent need for passage of the Kilgore-Forand Unemployment Insurance Bill and the Full Employment Bill. Then he called by name the committees that were responsible for holding up this much needed legislation.

Newly Elected Represents 107

The following are new committeemen elected to posts during the month of October:

- G. Westfall, 60; A. Korkosz, 52; A. Mathieson, 52; H. Bayless, 52; J. Green, 66; B. Price, 24; P. Maletta, 60; E. Connelly, 60; J. Koral, 95; J. Hanley, 28; T. Dahlen, 23; E. Brennan, 60; A. Lenta, 53.
J. Kasitch, 53; B. Ford, 18; C. Ferris, 63; M. Weightman, 53; J. Moran, 40; A. Signor, 60; M. Perretta, 49; W. Martin, 40; J. Kelly, 24; C. Rose, 24; G. Moch, 28; L. Shannon, 23; J. Westinger, 24; A. Parillo, 85; W. Brandhorst, 24; H. Frick, 85; R. O'Brien, 57; F. Whitaker, 81; J. Mrozek, 60; S. Passamonte, 60; A. Raymond, 53; M. Folkman, 60.
M. Gee, 23; Z. Metala, 60; C. Rogers, 53; F. Emspak, 46; W. Christianson, 60; F. Bentley, 109; S. Riley, 17; R. Frederick, 60; A. Diamante, 53; V. Lentine, 60; A. Lockwood, 49 and W. Irvin, 60.



WILLIAM MASTRIANI, who has represented building 81, transmitter department on the executive board has been assigned by that body to also represent building 107.

Kearney's Interest Indifferent, Replies to Union Group Reveal

Report of Legislative Committee
Our members should know the grand "run around" that the Legislative Committee is getting from our representative in Congress, B. W. Kearney. Here is the record for the last two months:

On September 19th a delegation representing the Legislative Committee and Local 301, composed of Chairman Al Davis, Francis Etzel and Pay Marvin, waited on Congressman Kearney and discussed several bills with him which were then pending and are still pending. (A full account of this meeting was given in an earlier issue of this paper.) These bills, Kearney was informed, mean much to labor unions and laboring men and women. He professed ignorance to the subject matter of the most of these bills but promised he would study them and write his position on them. In the month and a half that has elapsed since that conference the committee has not received any satisfactory answer.

Again on October 3rd, Davis wrote Kearney asking him to become a sponsor of the House version of the Full Employment Bill introduced by Congressman Patman and to insist on the phrase

"the right to work" to be included in the bill when it reaches the floor of the house. Kearney refused to commit himself as in favor of the bill. In the same letter Kearney was asked to support the 65c minimum wage bill. Davis got the "brush off" on this one, also.

Kearney was asked in a letter dated October 17th to act on the accompanying petitions signed by our membership which urged him "to work and vote" against the Burton-Ball-Hatch ("ball and chain") Bill. His reply was "acknowledge receipt of yours."

Again on the same date a resolution was forwarded to Kearney which had been passed by our membership. This condemned "Jim Crowism" and the anti-labor bias and discriminatory attitude in the national capital and asked Kearney "to do all in his power to eradicate such sources of provocation." His answer again was "acknowledge receipt."

This situation has existed for three years. What can we do with a guy like that?

ARE CEILING PRICES DISPLAYED AT YOUR GROCER? INSIST ON KNOWING OPA PRICES.

Printed in U.S.A.

L I MASTRIANI, PRESIDENT LOCAL 301 ELECTRICAL UNION SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

Electrical Union News

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA—LOCAL 301 CIO

Vol. 11—No. 38

NOVEMBER 17, 1945

300 3c per copy

Consider This A Moment

By AUSTIN CASE, Editor

Local 301 is at this moment facing one of the most critical times in its history. I and many others are aware of this fact and its implications. As a union member, I want to bring to light my thoughts so that, perhaps, serious mistakes will not be made which would jeopardize the future of not only this fine union, but every individual worker in the GE plant who looks to local 301 as a protector against unfair employment practices and as a champion of his rights and well being.

There are two things facing us, collectively as an organization, and as individuals. They are: first, to carry on a successful fight for a fair wage adjustment so that we can work and enjoy a decent standard of living; second, to elect a group of officers who will give us the strength and guidance to carry on and win that fight.

As for the election, I, as editor of this paper, do not intend to write or publish anything in it which would even faintly imply partisanship. My reason for that is that this is the paper of ALL membership, not of one person or group of persons. However, I wish to stress an important point in regard to the elections.

UNITY IMPERATIVE FOR US

The great weakness of organized labor is lack of unity, caused of actual splits and differences based solely on personalities. Let us avoid them! The job which has to be done by this organization for its membership is so tremendous that its strength must not be sapped or impaired the slightest. We need all we have, to win.

So in that connection, if there should develop any verbal or published controversy, although there shouldn't be, other than on strictly union matter and program, let every candidate take the fine advice given recently by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of one of the smartest politicians of all time and a great president. She said this:

"The strong man does not rush to deny accusations, but depends on his character and actions to prove his integrity."

Let us remember that competition and exchange of opinion is a maker of progress and a sign of vitality and health, but it can also be ruinous and destructive if the ethics of fair play and honesty are cast aside.

The important hearing which all this has on our own wage increase fight is summed up in a statement made last week by Ira Mosher, president of the anti-labor National Manufacturers Association, when asked which delegates at the Labor-Management Conference represented his organization and which ones represented the United States Chamber of Commerce, the other big business group fighting labor. His reply was, "I can give you no lists because we are all united behind the same purpose."

That purpose is well known to most union people. It is to break the unions, to fight any wage increase to the workers and to fight means of providing full employment, because widespread unemployment would create a flooded cheap-labor market.

WE MUST MATCH INDUSTRY'S STRENGTH

Local 301 is a very small segment of organized labor but nevertheless, as one of the largest union locals in the country, a very important one. General Electric is but one company of hundreds which are fighting cooperatively against organized labor. But as the largest in the electrical industry, GE is a very important one. GE is completely united along with their industry partners behind the vicious purpose I have just mentioned. This union, Local 301, has a far greater purpose to fight for because it is for the benefit of humanity. But do we have the strength of unity to match GE? The answer rests with our membership and candidates alike. For the benefit of our organization and everyone of us individually, let's hope that when elections are over the answer will be the right one.

Election Committee Named

The committeemen at their November meeting amended an executive board recommendation.

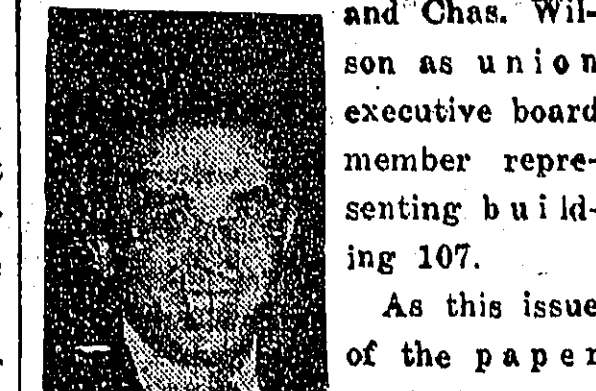
Those elected to serve on the committee are as follows: William Young, Harvey Scott, Blanchard Mowers, Anthony Villano, W. Marchawka, H. H. Judway, C. Sills, A. Eastman, I. Patterson and P. Candlers.

Three UE Wage Boards Consider Joint Action

The \$2 a day wage increase fight being conducted with General Electric took added significance as this paper went to press, with the announcement by the national officers of the UE that a joint meeting of the General Electric, Westinghouse and General Motors Conference Boards of the union would be held in New York City November 16 to consider further action against the "big three" of the electrical industry.

Pic Switch Explained

It just couldn't be, but there it was: William Mastriani, executive board member as president of GE



and Chas. Wilson as union executive board member representing building 107. As this issue of the paper went to press we still hadn't received notice of Mastriani's suit against the editor for libel or Wilson's note of thanks for the compliment, but the editor wishes to explain how it all happened anyway.

In the mechanical process of printing this paper, the type is made up in page form and is complete with the exception of the photo engravings, which are merely laid into the space provided for them when the mat is rolled off the page.

When "proofs" of the page are taken, the engraving is left out of the form so as not to ink them. The thing that happened is that the page was all OK when read for errors but when the cuts on photo-engravings were laid in place for the mat, they were accidentally misplaced.

It was an accident which shouldn't but can very easily happen and sometimes does, even in large daily papers. Bill Mastriani has our sincere apologies.

The Editor.

WILSON MEETING REMOTE

The likelihood of such a meeting seems remote however, as Wilson, who a few months ago openly advocated increasing wages after V-J Day so that workers would maintain their wartime earnings despite a shortened work week, now finds himself in an impossible spot and can not justify his present attitude as revealed by the policy of his company spokesmen.

It is very likely that this is also the reason for his refusing the invitation of President Truman to participate in the Labor-Management Conference in Washington. Meanwhile, Local 301 seems



SCRIBER JANDREAU

ready to follow whatever action becomes expedient towards meeting the wage issue. Committeemen last week enthusiastically approved the report given by Business Agent Leo Jandreau, who is also chairman of the GE Conference Board, and evidence gathered from expressions made by rank and file members points to membership action if the company does not change its present aloof attitude.

90% IN SCHENECTADY

(In Schenectady well over 90% of those contacted have signed petitions, which have been delivered to the national office and more are coming in daily.)

On November 7, the national officers, under provisions of the Smith-Connolly Act, gave 30 days notice to the National Labor Relations Board of their request for a strike vote to be taken in the General Electric, Westinghouse and General Motors Electrical Division plants. Although New York City papers November 8 carried Washington announcements that the vote would be conducted by the NLRB early next month, it was implied that whatever action will be taken is dependent on future developments.

The union officials were still seeking a meeting between GE President Wilson and the General Officers of the UE in hopes that true collective bargaining, which has been impossible up to this time, might be conducted on the wage demand.

NOTE INCREASE

Reports from the business office say new applications are coming in in numbers four times greater than usual since the strike vote authorization petitions were circulated recently. This new spurt in signing up by non-members has been entirely voluntary.

It gives promise that if the committeemen and union members talk and explain the real benefits of joining Local 301 to the few non-members in their departments, if there are any, it will soon be that the plant is 100% not 90 or 95% union. This in turn will benefit everyone through giving added strength to the union and its program.

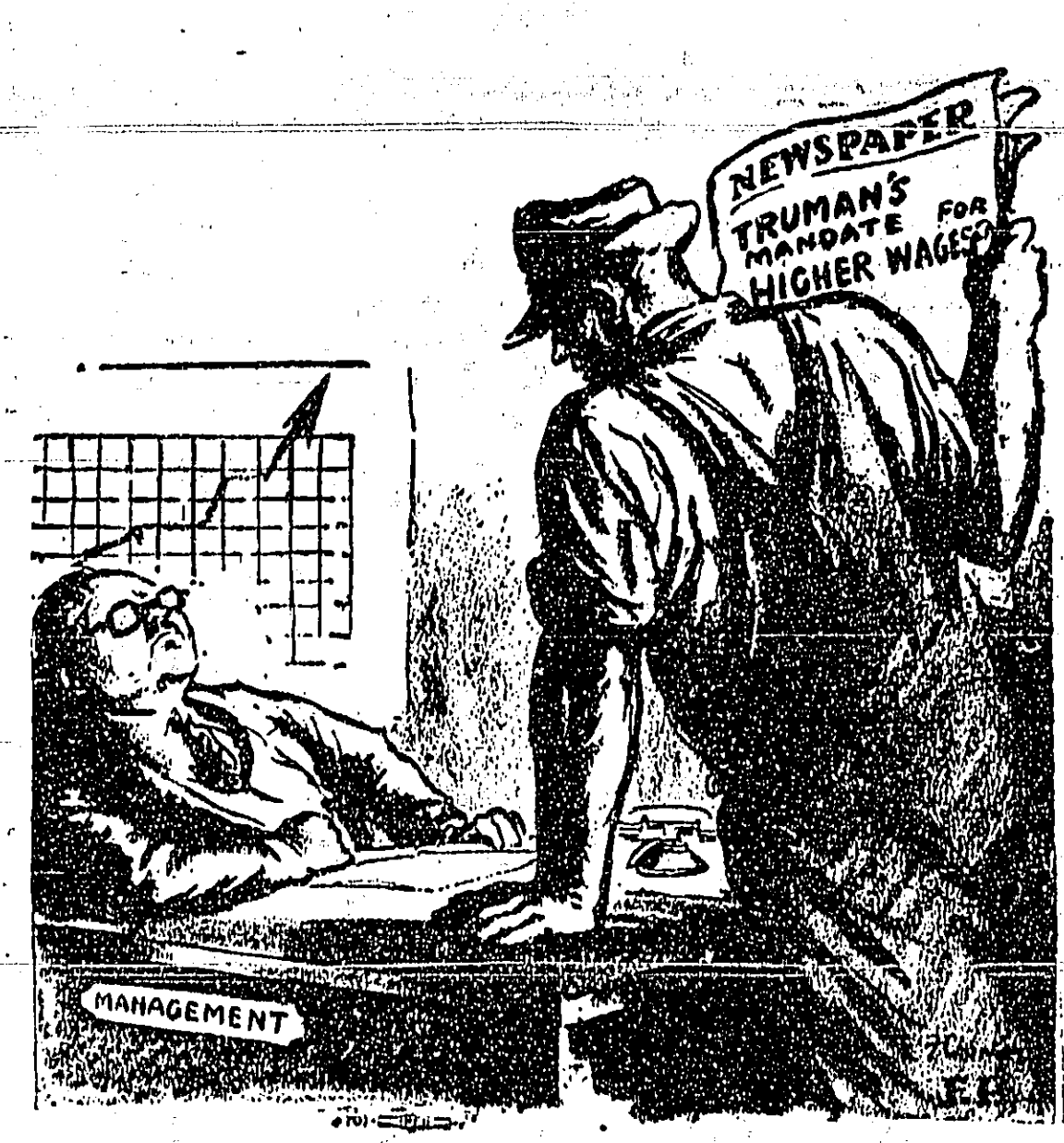
Back Drive To Reach 100% Membership

The shop representatives in their November meeting last week unanimously endorsed an executive board recommendation to get all non-union members in the local GE plant into the union in support of the \$2 a day wage increase demand.

The exact nature of the campaign is not known at this writing, but it is a job which requires the combined effort of committeemen and members alike within their respective departments.

Reasons why every worker should belong to the union would fill a book. There are no reasons why a person should not belong.

ORIGINAL TORN



Thanksgiving Thanks

The following poem, written by Floyd Chatham Genter in commemoration of Thanksgiving Day is particularly fitting now that the war is won and the boys are coming home. It will strike a harmonious chord in the hearts of all of our members who will rejoice that we can now turn our thoughts and efforts to building a lasting peace and a better world.

Thanksgiving thanks and our thanks are due. The fields all yielded their treasures true. So with thankful hearts we bring in our days the God who crowneth us all our days.

Thanksgiving Day, Lord, we are thankful. The springtime came at the winter's end. The seeds were sown as the meadows grew. The hard earth yielded itself to the plow.

The flowers bloomed and the robins sang. The people worshipped as the church bells rang. The grains grew strong and they ripened well. Now our joyful songs sound o'er hill and dell.

Thanksgiving Day, Lord, we are grateful. The harvests were watched with a tender care. And vigilance reigned with a vigor rare. Each opening stalk and growing vine revealed us a God with a love divine.

Thanksgiving Day, Lord, we praise Thee. The sun of Heaven shows down in its heat. The blossoms were fragrant, so refreshingly sweet. For the falling rains, and the mountain breezes. We extol Thee, Father, for all of these.

Thanksgiving Day, Lord, we are grateful. The reapers gathered the golden crops. The husbandmen nurtured the fattening stocks. The fruits were saved from frost's killing air. We wisely discern God's protecting care.

Thanksgiving Day, Lord, we praise Thee. The garner is made, and the barns are full. God's labor rewarded to the fruitless soil. Each stalk is not hard, such labor is sweet. Now we bow our heads in a reverent mood.

Thanksgiving Day, Lord, we are grateful. We ask our Lord to answer prayers. All nature abundant as God shall bless. His promises fulfilled, our hearts confess.

Thanksgiving Day, Lord, we trust in Thee. The families come home from near and far. Men to friends and stranger to their door's star. Mirth and joy enjoineth with thanks and praise. To a generous God who provides always.

Thanksgiving Day, Lord, we are grateful. We thank Thee, we bless Thee, and we praise Thee. For Grace, Truth, and Love, too, by which we live. Thou hast kept us, oh Christ, in joy sublime. We worship Thee, God, for these gifts of Thine. Thanksgiving Day, Lord, we revere Thee.

Wallace Warns Wage Boost Needed to Stop Collapse

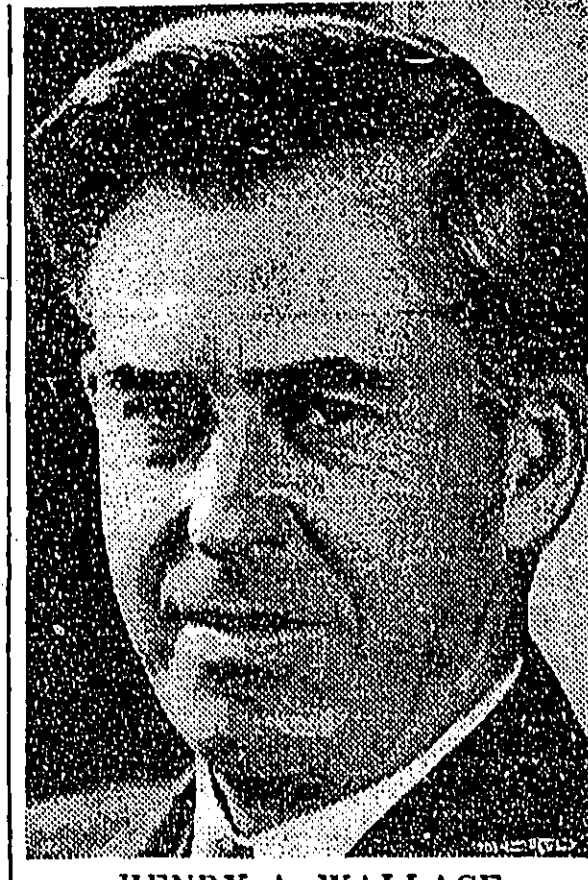
WASHINGTON (FP)—Unless a "substantial increase in wage rates is granted," Sec. of Commerce Henry A. Wallace said Nov. 5, the incomes of wage earners will continue to decline "to such an extent that prices must inevitably be affected."

Wallace spoke before the opening session of the national labor-management conference in the auditorium of the U. S. Department of Labor. He said that an increase of 15% in manufacturing industries and correspondingly smaller increases in other activities would not prevent a drop of from \$20 to \$25 billion in the total wages and salaries paid in the U. S. in 1945.

Vice President under the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, and hero of many in the American labor movement, Wallace said that the decline in wages and salaries would be reflected proportionately in profits before taxes, "but corporate profits after taxes will probably be unaffected and perhaps even show small gain.

"If such increases in wage rates are not made," Wallace warned, "the decline in wage and salary incomes will be even greater than \$25 billion. There then will be severe downward pressure on prices after the spring of next year, and profits will be correspondingly endangered."

Wallace closed by saying that the road of industrial peace is reached through a mutual concern for the national welfare, "through full production, full employment, with higher wages and more lasting profits than we have ever dreamed of before."



HENRY A. WALLACE

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS
United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers of America, Local 301 CIO
Published weekly, the first three weeks of each month, by Trade Union Service, Inc., 17 Murray Street, New York 7, N. Y. Subscription \$1.00 a year. Entered as second class matter August 8, 1944, at the Post Office of New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.
AUSTIN J. CASE, Editor
RAYMOND D. FLANIGAN, Co-editor
Editorial Committee: Frank Enspak, Sidney Friedlander, Chet Cook, Jayne Sparks, Troy Snipes, Blanchard Mowers.
Editorial Office, Electrical Union News
301 Liberty St., Schenectady, N. Y.

Cases Pending Before Management

The following is a list of cases pending before management at the present time. As a service to the membership, the Electrical Union News in co-operation with the Business Agents Office will publish in each issue the list of cases pending. When a case no longer appears on this list, it may be assumed that settlement has been made.

Table with columns: No., Hds., Case, Committeeman, Date. Lists various cases like 'Joe Thurling', 'Cleaving Group', 'Group Complaint', etc.

CASES UP FOR JOINT INVESTIGATION

Table with columns: No., Case, Date. Lists cases like 'Edson Mark', 'Ripoldi', 'Group Complaint', etc.

Cases in Advanced Stages Of Collective Bargaining

Table with columns: No., Case, Date. Lists cases like 'John W. Parburt', 'J. H. Leigh', 'Frank Shuy', etc.

CASES BEFORE MR. SPICER, VICE-PRESIDENT

Table with columns: No., Case, Date. Lists cases like 'Group Complaint', 'Webbers', 'Die Settlers', etc.

IMPORTANT DATES!
NOMINATIONS — NOVEMBER 25
ELECTION — DECEMBER 4-5

Read Your Insurance Policy With Great Care

The inquiry made by the Union member whose relative was refused a claim for injury by the Travelers Insurance Company on the ground that the injury was a result of "sickness" and not "accident" has led me to examine the provisions of their accident policy, and I came to the conclusion that it may be possible that the insured under this form of policy will meet further disappointment if the insurance Company avails itself of the provisions numbers 1 and 16 of the Standard Provisions.

This Policy includes the endorsements and attached papers, if any, and contains the entire contract of insurance except as it may be modified by the Company's classification of risks and premium rates in the event that the insured is injured after having changed his occupation to one classified by the Company as more hazardous than that stated in the Policy, or while he is doing any act or thing pertaining to any occupation so classified, except ordinary duties about his residence or while engaged in recreation, in which event the Company will pay only such portion of the indemnities provided in the Policy as the premium paid would have purchased at the rate but within the limits so fixed by the Company for such hazardous occupation."

Under this provision, if an injury received in a fall from a ladder while putting up storm windows, does the policyholder recover full amount of benefits? Number 16 Reads as Follows: "The Company may cancel this Policy at any time by written notice delivered to the Insured or mailed to his last address as shown by the records of the Company, together with cash or the Company's check for the unearned portion of the premiums actually paid by the Insured, and such cancellation shall be without prejudice to any claim originating prior thereto."

Buy Victory Bonds

Kearney Has Not Signed
the release petition to bring the Kilgore-Forand Unemployment Compensation Bill to the floor of the House for action.
WRITE AND URGE HIM TO DO SO NOW!

Readers' Digest Editor Kicks

Fulton Oursler, Senior Editor of the Readers Digest, in a letter to the Union-Star, denies Local 301's charge that the Digest succeeded in suppressing "the most damaging results of an investigation (of the Readers Digest) by the National Council of Teachers of English," an investigation which branded the Digest as poison for the minds of the youth of America.

Unorganized GE Office Workers Miss UE Gains

Office and clerical workers who are at the present time still outside the union ranks but surely coming within the collective bargaining organization of UE now have much more that they are missing by being unorganized.

Cases Before War Labor Board
Table with columns: No., Case, Date. Lists cases like 'General Office Workers', '1479 General', etc.

Story of Labor
A comic strip with multiple panels illustrating labor struggles. Panels include: 'I CAN'T USE YOU, WOLOCZEK...', 'THE POLSKA'S AND HUNNIES...', 'I'M JOHN MITCHELL...', 'MR. MITCHELL TALKS HORSE SENSE...', 'YOU'RE A COMPANY SPY!', 'THE DIVIDE AND CONQUER TACTICS FAILED...', 'WOLOCZEK! O'BRIEN! LEVY! ALL GOOD UNION MEN TOGETHER!'.

ORIGINAL TORN

If you call about your case give the docket number

(Continued on page 4)