

Local Contacts GE On Copper Cartel

Local 301 has called on GE officials to use their influence to break up the world copper cartel which has created an artificial shortage of copper and has caused many recent lay-offs at the Schenectady GE plant.

A resolution passed unanimously at the membership meeting Monday night asked the GE heads "to exercise their influence with their controlling interests, the House of Morgan and the First National Bank of New York, to compel Kennecott Copper and Phelps Dodge to break away from the world cartel and resume full production in order that there may be a full supply of copper to keep our members employed."

World Copper Monopoly

The Federal Trade Commission has charged that Phelps Dodge and Kennecott Copper are two of the six corporations which, through an international cartel, created an artificial "permanent shortage" of copper to keep copper prices high.

The Smaller War Plants Corp., a federal agency, in its report to the Small Business Committee of the Senate in 1946 described the two corporations as being controlled, along with GE, by the J. P. Morgan — First National Bank group, top financial group in the country.

The 301 resolution pointed out these facts and also reminded the GE officials that at least one GE director, Charles D. Dickey, is a director of Kennecott Copper Corp.

UE Members Laid Off

Many thousands of UE members throughout the country, including some Schenectady workers, were laid off recently because of the copper shortage.

A report by the Federal Trade Commission indicates that the copper industry deliberately encouraged long strikes, like the eight months Phelps Dodge one, as a way of exhausting a copper stockpile of 700,000 tons that existed at the beginning of 1946.

"Dominant producers might well consider it to their advantage to permit the continuance of labor difficulties to curtail production," the Commission stated, "at least until such times as the large stockpile might be drawn down."

CIO Broadcasts

The Capital District CIO Council will present two radio programs Sunday, at 12:15 p.m. over WOKO and at 2:20 p.m. over WTRY.

What Will You Bet It's a Housing Problem?



Roy Cannice, left, Bldg. 66, of the 301 Veterans' Committee, and Armond Parravani, right, Bldg. 73A, a former GI, go into a huddle over a problem of Parravani's. The union's Veterans' Center is open from 1 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Friday.

FOOTNOTE

About Jim McGarry

Jim McGarry, who boasted that "my writings are controlled by me" is no longer employed by the Schenectady Gazette.

The paper's version is that he "resigned of his own free will". The "resignation" came right after he wrote several columns in favor of the Newburyport plan of cutting prices.

When EU News last winter called him a "two bit imitator of the better paid stooges" (of Big Business), because of attacks on UE in his column, McGarry answered as follows in the Mar. 13 Gazette:

"The CIO has openly charged within the past two months that the press is controlled by 'big business'. Since I am a columnist in the local press, I take it to mean that my writings are controlled by big business.

"It's too rotten an implication to be ignored. My writings are controlled by me. Like any other articles they are subject only to the approval of the newspaper editor, who has seen fit to change less than a dozen words since the column began last December."

Support for City Workers

The Local 301 membership meeting Monday night voted to back the Schenectady city workers' demand for a pay increase of 25 cents an hour.

Even Hugh Crane Now Admits High Profits

Remember how Hugh Crane, who writes a column for the Works News, laughed at the Nathan report on mounting profits of American corporations?

The Nathan report, prepared for the national CIO by a leading economist, showed that Big Business can give substantial wage increases without raising prices.

Profits of GE and other giant industries are now so huge that even Hugh Crane can't ignore the figures. Here's what he admitted in the Apr. 25 Works News:

"Corporation earnings by and large for 1946 and for this year so far pretty much bear out the Nathan Report that I spoofed in January. The Department of Commerce estimated them at \$9 billions in 1945 and \$12 billions in 1946 and they are probably now running at the rate of 'round \$15 billions."

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Urge Truman Veto Anti-Labor Measure

The anti-labor bill passed by the U. S. Senate Tuesday by a 68 to 24 vote contains most of the provisions of the Hartley Bill to weaken or destroy unions. Both CIO and AFL leaders have warned that the so-called "milder" Senate bill is a blow to the rights of all working men and women.

It may take 10 days for the Senate and House of Representatives to work out in conference the "compromise" bill which will be sent to President Truman. On the other hand, the anti-labor legislation may be speeded to the White House within a few days.

Must Urge Veto

It is essential that thousands of messages be sent to President Truman, at once urging him to veto the measure which the conference committee is concocting. Local 301's Legislative Com-

Send Telegrams

Names of seven more committeemen have been reported as sending telegrams to Washington for their groups in protest against anti-labor legislation.

Michael Tedisco, Board member, reported Committeemen C. Troiano, Bldg. 14; Harry Nelson and Louis Santa Barbara, Bldg. 16, and Curtis Robert Smith and Frank Melrose, Bldg. 17.

Leo Sisto, Board member, reported Robert Ensley, Bldg. 59; Sam Scott reported John Boyd, Bldg. 285.

mittee sent such a telegram to the President Tuesday night and also asked him to veto the Gwynne bill weakening the wage and hour law.

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It's Tonight!

Joe Louis fight pictures will be shown at the section night entertainment tonight at Local 301 Hall for members in R.I.M., I.C., Tube and Welded Products. There will be dancing and refreshments. There will be a section night program May 23 for workers in Electric, Patrol, Turbine, Porcelain, PUNCH-press, Searchlight and Ordnance departments.

Going to New York



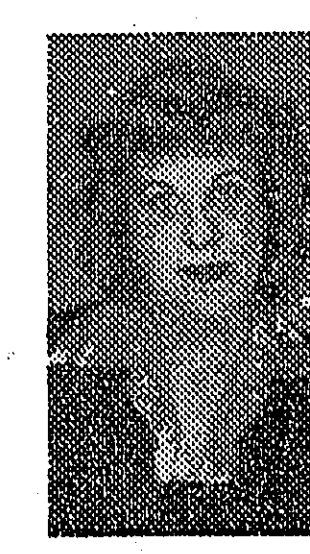
Helen Quirini



Mary McCartin



Sadie Iovinella



Lucy Zeppetelli

This four-woman committee will meet with GE officials on a national level Tuesday afternoon in New York City on the AER case involving low-rated piece work jobs normally performed by women. They are Mary McCartin, Bldg. 28; Sadie Iovinella, Bldg. 81; Helen Quirini, Bldg. 81 and Lucy Zeppetelli, Bldg. 53. Leo Jandreau, business agent, will take part in the session.

Members Vote Tuesday On 301 Constitution

Proposed changes in the Local 301 constitution will be voted on by the membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20, at the union hall. The Constitution Committee has recommended the changes.

There will be the regular order of business.

Villano Winner of Contest for Union Members

Anthony Villano, Bldg. 37, who signed up 31 new members for Local 301 before May 1, will receive the first prize in the organizing drive, a \$100 U. S. bond, at the membership meeting Tuesday night.

Other prize winners are Richard A. Neilson, Bldg. 69, who will get a \$50 bond for obtaining 25 members, and Frank H. Hiller, Bldg. 285, who will receive a \$25 bond for 15 members.

William Stewart, chairman of the drive, has announced a total of 665 new members enrolled by Wednesday. Any union member who signs up a new member will receive a dollar for each application card until June 1.

News of the 11½ cents an hour pay raise and the six paid holidays quickened the pace of the organizing drive. Board member Anthony Esposito, for instance, turned in 10 new applications during the past week.

Board member Charles Ferris has reported an additional name, Felix Paprocki, Bldg. 18F, for the honor roll of committeemen with 100 per cent union membership in their groups.

At a special meeting of the Organizing Committee this week plans were made for having every Board member check with all committeemen on the number of non-members in their groups and assist in contacting them.

The committee has urged every union member to take part in the organizing drive and to point out to non-members that the union is responsible for the new pay raise and for the long list of gains made over the past 10 years. Only a strong union can win wage increases or job security from GE.

Machinists' Cases

The cases of a number of machinists who did not receive their raise under the machinists' case, and who the union believes are clearly covered by the case, are being argued out with the company. Committeemen representing the men are being kept informed of developments.

Peterson Calls on Truman, Ives, Wagner to Help Defeat Anti-Labor Bills; Points Out Workers' Gains Through UE

Telegrams which President Andrew Peterson of Local 301 sent to President Truman and U. S. Senators Irving M. Ives and Robert F. Wagner urged them "to do all in your power to defeat the pending anti-labor bills and return to the progressive and positive program of Franklin D. Roosevelt's Economic Bill of Rights."

Acting on instructions of the May 5 membership meeting, Peterson pointed out that measures now in Congress threaten the gains made by the union for Schenectady GE workers.

"The raise was won this year without strike or other conflict. It was the result of 11 years of the sound trade union organization expressed in the UERMWA and generally typical of the CIO and all labor," Peterson stated. "In our 11 years of organization we struck just once, last year, because we were forced to."

UE Achievements

"Our gains have been the result of industrial organization, which unites all workers of all crafts, sex, creed, color and beliefs in one big union. They are the result of bargaining on a national scale with national companies competing within our industry. They are the result of our democratic unionism, in which the members make their decisions and choose their officers without outside interference, free from inquisition and "thought control" by either government or any other group. They are the result of judicious and careful use of the American right to strike, guided by the judgment of the membership and not by undemocratic "cooling-off periods" and injunctions for the benefit of the unreasonable employer. Our gains are the proof of the value to the American people of the kind of unionism which developed under the guidance of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the principles of the Wagner Act.

Wages Still Lag

"Our new agreement showed one weakness. The raise did not make up for the cost of living increase of the past year, even while prices continue to rise and corporate profits reach new all-time records. There is the proof that workers

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Three Candidates In Race for Queen

The first candidate entered in the annual contest for queen of the Local 301 field day was Jean Gonia, Bldg. 66 office worker.

Other entries are Evelyn Haras, Bldg. 29, and Bernice Blusin, Bldg. 53.

The Activities Committee has asked all Board members to see that candidates are entered from their departments. The girl in whose name the most field day tickets are sold will win a \$100 bond and a cup. Prizes for second and third places will be \$50 and \$25 bonds, plus inscribed bracelets.

Field Day will be June 29 at Pete and Sally's Grove, Upper Albany St.

have not yet had their bargaining power brought into equality with corporate wealth and power.

"All of the favorable union factors which brought about our gains for the people and for sound industrial relations are threatened by anti-labor legislation pending in Congress today. The House bill would destroy those factors. The Senate Labor Committee bill would threaten or curtail them in one way or another.

"Our members in meeting assembled, considering their gains and the great threat to these gains and to American freedom now shaping up in Washington, feel that the experience of 17,000 GE workers in Schenectady is typical of the nation. They feel this experience shows that instead of trying to weaken unions, Congress should get at the source of our difficulties — prices beyond the reach of the people, excessive profits for the few, dropping living standards, taxes that hit the low incomes and spare the rich, lack of housing, inadequate employment opportunities for the returned veterans. These are the causes of industrial strife and depression."



Jean Gonia

Urge Truman Veto Anti-Labor Measure

(Continued from Page 1)

Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York was one of the 21 Democrats who voted against the Senate bill Tuesday. Three Republicans also opposed the bill.

But Senator Irving M. Ives, Republican, who had claimed to be "a friend of labor" and to frown on severe bills, voted for the bill.

As Milo Lathrop said on the Local 301 radio broadcast, "When it came to the show-down, Senator Ives voted with the big money."

The union's radio broadcast also pointed out that Ives' "liberalism" has never been anything but a device to get votes.

Write Ives, Kearney, Taylor

If President Truman vetoes the bill, there is grave danger that the Senate and the House of Representatives will over-ride the veto. Pressure must be put NOW on Ives and on Representatives Bernard Kearney and Dean Taylor to change their votes and to support a presidential veto.

The Senate bill, like the Hartley bill, interferes with the right to strike, permits government injunctions against strikes, outlaws the closed shop, undermines the union shop, makes it easy for employers to duck bargaining with unions, forbids the check-off except under certain circumstances. It would dictate to union members what officers to elect through a provision denying collective bargaining to a union if any officer is called a "Communist or Communist sympathizer."

Stowe Is Worth Hearing

The weekly news analysis of Leland Stowe, sponsored by the national UE, is receiving a great deal of praise from radio listeners. Don't miss the program. It is broadcast at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday over WSNY (1240 on your dial), WABY (1400) and WBCA (FM).

Volunteers Needed

The YMCA needs several men to help boys design and build cars for the Soap Box Derby. Any union member who wants to volunteer should notify the 301 office.

Hear Murray Tonight

National CIO President Philip Murray will speak on "Keep Labor Free" at 10:45 p.m. tonight (Friday) over WGY.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP A NEW MEMBER?

Newcomers Hired On Skilled Jobs

Within recent weeks the company has hired persons without previous service credit for a number of skilled or semi-skilled jobs, including several welder and sensitive drill press jobs, and such classifications as boring mill, turret lathe, planer, gas cutter, Class C tester, varnish maker, chip and file, auto mechanic, and machinist machine repair, among others.

If there are any persons still on lay-off with service credit, who qualify for any of the above jobs, they should get in touch with the union office.

It is of course important to workers who are laid-off to make sure the employment office knows for what jobs they can qualify, so they can be given the opportunity to claim such openings in line with their seniority.

The union has written to Works Manager J. M. Howell, asking that steps be worked out to insure that present employees, in the plant or on lay-off, be given first consideration on higher-rated jobs.

301 Files Complaint For Laid-off Workers

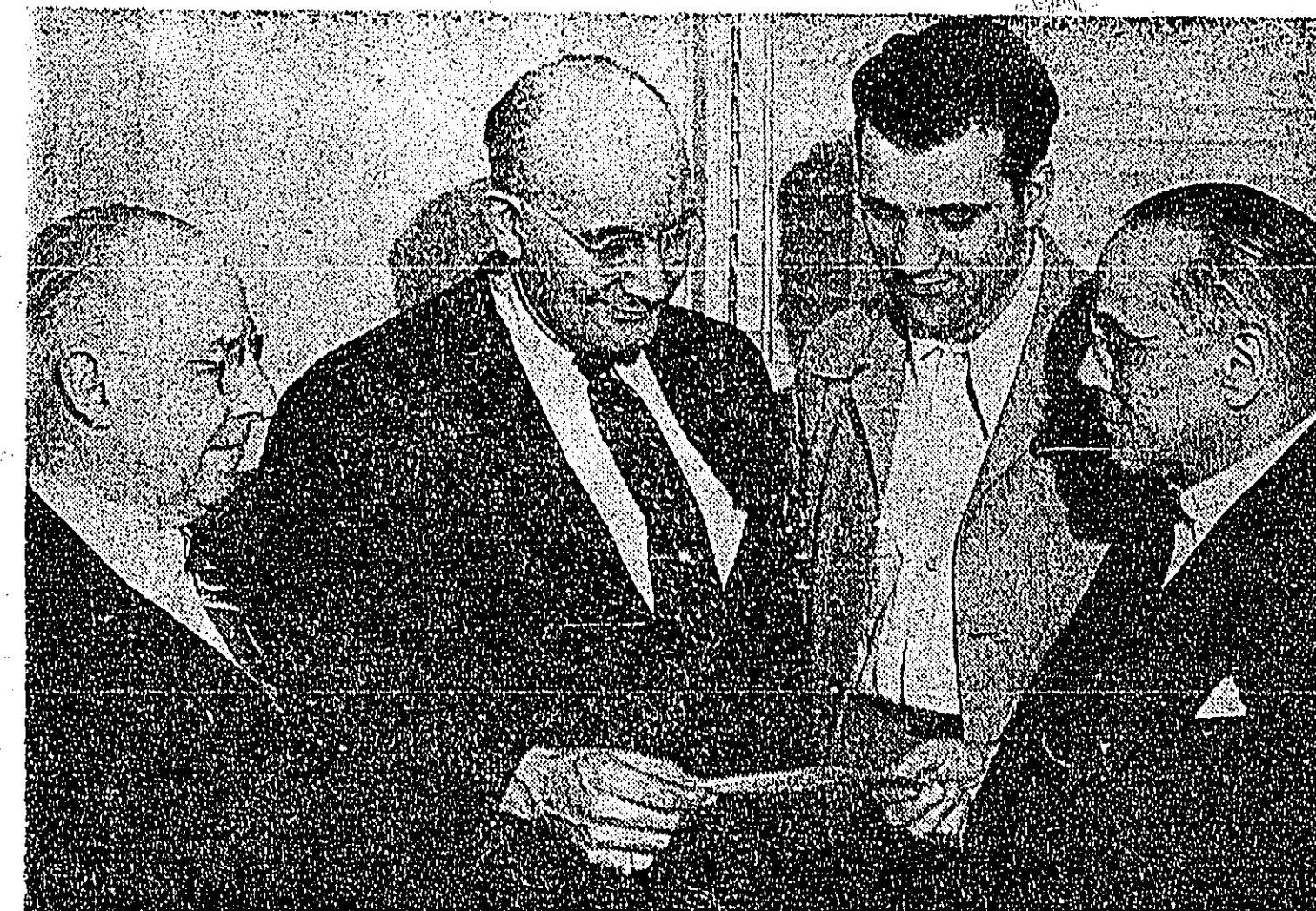
A formal complaint has been filed by Local 301 with the company over the practice of certain persons in the employment office in Bldg. 1 in putting unfair pressure on laid-off employees to take other jobs they do not find suitable.

There have been many complaints to the union that certain employment office people threatened workers with loss of their continuity of service if they refused to take a job offered, even where they had reason to refuse the particular job.

The union grievance calls attention to the fact that the contract provides for loss of service if a laid-off employee "is notified within a year he may return but fails to return or to give satisfactory explanation within two weeks."

The union grievance asks that the employment people be instructed to live up to the purpose of this provision, that a laid-off person be given a reasonable opportunity to find a job in line with his or her previous work and pay, and that where a person turns down all offered jobs for sensible personal reasons, the person should be put on the lay-off list until an acceptable job is available. The union also contends that breaking service should not be something for Bldg. 1 to decide on its own, but for discussion between the company, the employee, and the union.

Local 301 Check Goes to Paraplegic Fund



President Andrew Peterson of Local 301 gives the union's check for \$1,332.36 to the Schenectady Paraplegic Fund treasurer, Earl Dorsch. Left to right, Roy W. Peters, general chairman of the fund; President Peterson, Joseph Dominelli, chairman of the union's Veterans' Committee which made the plant collection, and Dorsch.

Truman's Advisors Worried Over Prospect of Depression Hitting USA

Some people have to learn the hard way. The UE and the CIO have been warning for a year that skyrocketing prices and profits would drain away the purchasing power of the American people and bring a depression with millions of unemployed.

"That is why we urged immediate substantial wage increases," Russ Nixon, UE Washington representative, points out.

Last December President Truman insisted the economic outlook was good and would continue to be good "if we can just get people to go to work."

"On Apr. 10 Truman was not so sure," Nixon said. "He was no longer sure there would be no recession. Instead, he said there was 'no necessity' for a recession. And he had to put the finger on Big Business for price profiteering. He said they wanted price controls removed so they could have 'free enterprise'. Now they've got it. Let's see them make it work."

According to Nixon, Truman's economic advisers gave him a jolting picture recently when they talked to him about prices.

"In effect, they said that if business doesn't reduce prices voluntarily and in a systematic way over the next few months without cutting production and jobs, then we are in for a real business collapse with falling prices, bankruptcy and

heavy unemployment. We simply are producing far more goods than people can buy at present prices."

Even the very conservative business magazine, U. S. News, predicts "a recession" beginning about the middle of 1947 with 6 million unemployed.

The federal Civilian Production Administration predicts 6 million jobless for the second half of 1947. Recently the U. S. Census office attempted to hide the facts of unemployment from the American people, Nixon said; by reporting only 2½ million, instead of 4 million, unemployed at the beginning of February. The Census office told CIO representatives it would be "politically inexpedient" to print higher unemployment figures.

301 GOAL — 100 PER CENT UNION SHOP