

GE Double Dealing Aimed to Aid Carey

The General Electric Company last week made two major moves to aid the Carey "Imitation UE" in obvious hopes of returning to a company union set-up.

GE announced Thursday of last week to the newspapers that it had deposited \$141,000, a month's dues check-off money from all plants, with the federal court in New York on the grounds it didn't know who the funds belonged to.

On the same day GE petitioned the Taft-Hartley Board to call an election at its plants. In making this application GE came to the assistance of the "Imitation UE" which had been unable to show the Board enough application cards to justify its own request for an election.

Not a Word to UE

Only the preceding day, Wednesday, Dec. 14, top GE officials at a meeting with the UE negotiating committee in New York discussed both the check-off and representation questions. The company representatives did not reveal that at that very time GE lawyers were about to place the matters before a court and the Taft-Hartley Board.

GE's double-dealing was so complete that at the Dec. 14 session arrangements were made for a meeting Dec. 20 on the check-off question. UE International Representative Joseph Dermody and UE attorneys, and George H. Pfeif and GE attorneys were to try to work out an agreement at that time.

Then came the newspaper announcements of the check-off money being handed to federal court and the election petition, without any notice to the union.

When Dermody telephoned the company Friday of last week, GE said there would be no point in continuing plans for the Dec. 20 meeting as the check-off money was deposited in court.

Effect on Grievances

Throughout the GE system the company has been quick to take advantage of the disruptive actions of the "Imitation UE," to stall grievances and where possible to refuse to deal with the authorized UE shop stewards and representatives, as required by the contract.

As a result of activities of the Carey group at Lynn, Pittsfield, Philadelphia and Syracuse, for instance, the grievance machinery is

LOCAL 301 - UE STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DEC. 31, 1948

This information about Local 301 finances during 1948, previously given to the membership, is published in the EU News in compliance with the Taft-Hartley Law.

INCOME	
Dues	\$269,626.40
Initiations & Reinstatement Fees	1,918.00
Christmas Party	2,439.60
N. Y. State Unemp. Insurance Credit	1,221.86
Interest Earned	3,147.50
Miscellaneous	495.63
TOTAL INCOME	\$278,848.99
EXPENSES	
Per Capita Taxes	\$113,836.86
Salaries	14,717.35
Payroll Taxes	3,362.17
Employees' Insurance	1,322.66
Lost Time Payments	61,021.97
Office Expenses	11,278.42
Publication of Newspaper	18,530.59
Organization Expenses	26,217.81
Strike Relief, Charities & Other Donations	7,843.50
Christmas Party	2,352.42
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$290,484.05
NET OPERATING DEFICIT	\$ 11,635.06
TOTAL ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 1948	\$119,323.66
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DECEMBER 31, 1948	\$ 12,749.74
FINANCIAL SURPLUS	\$106,583.92

Copies of the Local 301, UE, statement of income and expense for the year ended Dec. 31, 1948, are available for all members at the union hall, 301 Liberty St.

Second Shift Meetings Will Take Place First

First and third shift members of Local 301, at the membership meeting Tuesday night, voted unanimously for two motions presented by Shop Steward Owen Phillips, Building 285, in behalf of the second shift. The motions were:

That in the future the second shift part of the membership meetings take place before the first and third shift meetings. Under this arrangement the second shift will meet at 12:45 a.m. after the close of the second shift Monday night, usually, and the first and third shifts will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday as usual.

That as far as possible second shift workers be given proportional representation in the election of committee members, delegates and other representatives.

Business Agent Leo Jandreau said that both changes in his opinion would help unify the union.

completely bogged down. Here in Schenectady management has shown an increasingly tough attitude on grievance cases in the past few weeks.

At the negotiating session in New York last week the union renewed its arguments for a real pension offer.

Sound Familiar?

Political Pressure Put on AFL Union

Now it's the AFL in New York city that proves the point that you split labor when you try to turn a labor federation into a political machine and enforce its decisions on the affiliated unions.

In this case the attack happens to be on a most respectable, most "right-wing" union, the Ladies' Garment Workers headed by David Dubinsky.

The CIO started to turn on UE when UE refused to accept CIO's order that all CIO unions give blind support to the Democratic party machine. UE insisted that the members of every union and every local had the right to make their own decision.

CIO claimed UE's action was "Communist."

In the recent New York city election, the AFL Central Trades and Labor Council supported Mayor William O'Dwyer, while the Garment Workers supported Newbold Morris, the Republican and Liberal Party candidate.

Now the AFL body in New York has forced the resignation of Joseph Tavin, representative of the Garment Workers on the executive board of the AFL council.

Dubinsky is threatening to withdraw from the AFL Central Trades and Labor Council. He declared it is "unthinkable that the Central Trades and Labor Council would try to impose its political views upon its affiliates."

Within the AFL, Dubinsky is the closest political ally of Walter Reuther and Emil Rieve of the CIO who have been the most active in attacking UE for its refusal to accept political dictation.

Television Winner

Stanley Weaver, Building 16, won the television set awarded in connection with the sale of donation tickets to finance the 301 children's Christmas party. Announcement of the winner was made at the 301 dance Saturday night at the union hall.

Did You Know?

The top UE salary for general officers is \$7,500 a year, as compared with \$25,000 in Steel for Murray, \$16,000 in Textile for Rieve and \$10,000 in Auto for Reuther.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301 - U. E. R. & M. W. A.

Vol. 7, No. 51

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

December 30, 1949

GE to Terminate Union Contract April 1

What, Again?



Harvester Workers Vote UE; Beat UAW

UE has just scored a smashing victory over CIO raiders in the International Harvester plant in Louisville, Kentucky.

A Taft-Hartley Board election was held there last week. There were 3,200 employees eligible to vote. The vote was 1,908 for the farm equipment local of UE, to 1,049 for the United Auto Workers, CIO.

The UAW had concentrated a large number of organizers on the raiding drive. They spent large sums of money to influence local leaders. In the wind-up campaign Walter Reuther, UAW president, appeared personally, with other outside forces which have been campaigning against UE.

The vote was a clear-cut victory for membership control against CIO dictatorship. The Farm Equipment Workers had been ordered

by the CIO Executive Board to give up their union and join the UAW. They had voted against this order in referendum and in NLRB votes. They voted to join UE. Then the CIO Convention expelled both UE and UE and adopted an official policy of raiding unions which insist on membership control. But the International Harvester workers still insist on running their union.

Happy New Year
to All Members
of Local 301
and Their Families

UE Wins Election At Globe Forge

UE defeated the United Steelworkers, CIO, in a National Labor Relations Board election Dec. 22 at the Globe Forge plant at Syracuse.

This factory was the first place Frank Fiorillo, field organizer for the "Imitation UE", tried to turn away from UE, after getting on the payroll of Carey's outfit. However he realized the "Imitation UE" was too weak to win an election there and arranged to have the Steelworkers appear on the ballot instead.

As the Steelworkers is the biggest union in Syracuse, they expected to apply enough pressure and influence to walk off with the election. The Syracuse Post-Standard commented on what a bright idea it was to substitute the Steelworkers on the ballot for the "Imitation UE."

There's no question that the workers were thoroughly familiar with conditions in Syracuse plants organized by the Steelworkers. So they went to the polls and voted decisively for UE. This was the first Labor Board election in UE District 3 since the "Imitation UE" was chartered by Philip Murray.

Fighting Rate Cuts On Boring Mill Jobs

Turbine boring mill operators, backed by other machine groups, organized this week for a fight against the company's cutting of rates on part of the boring mill work.

Notices of lower classifications and reduced AER's (anticipated earning rate) were issued to a number of operators Tuesday, to take effect next Tuesday. The move was wider than had been announced by Works Manager Lewis J. Male the previous week. Horizontal mill operators were included. The company also said that reduced rates also were intended on some of the planers, if and when the roughing work there

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Step Planned To Wipe Out Gains of UE

The General Electric Company served notice on UE Wednesday of its intention to terminate the contract April 1.

The notice of termination means that the company hopes to encourage company unionism and thereby whittle down the hard-won protection of GE workers — the seniority, piece work guarantees, paid holidays, paid vacations, grievance procedure, and other benefits. GE also hopes to use the threat of lay-offs and short time as a club in this drive.

Another Anti-UE Move

The notice of termination follows the pattern of GE's other recent anti-union moves. Again it talked "neutrality." The letter from George Pfeif said the company did not want to "run the risk of appearing to be unfairly favoring one side" by letting the contract run beyond April 1. That is sheer nonsense. GE has shown its "neutrality" so far by withholding UE's check-off in violation of the contract, by filing NLRB petitions to help out the "Imitation UE", and by protecting the Carey stooges.

The only previous time that GE terminated the contract was in 1946, in connection with the strike.

Aimed to Help Carey

This time the company obviously hopes that the notice of termination will help the Carey campaign of confusion, and possibly help establish the Carey company union in a few plants. GE, together with the NLRB, has been stalling on UE's proposal for consent elections before the contract expires. GE evidently hopes that there may be no election before April 1, and that the company would then have a good chance to attack the contract benefits.

GE is playing with foolish hopes. The membership will protect the

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UE Won the Contract; Carey Asks GE to Junk It!

GE to Terminate Contract April 1

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conditions of the contract between now and April 1, under the contract. It will protect those same hard won gains after April 1. UE operated in this plant for three years before it won recognition and a contract.

The membership today, despite disruption by a handful of stooges, is determined to protect its gains. The membership will know how to do this. The company has been violating the contract where it can get away with it. The membership knows that enforcement of the contract benefits now depends on the willingness of the membership to fight.

The membership will be prepared to fight to preserve its working conditions, now and after April 1. And after April 1 it will be prepared to fight for a better contract, for shorter hours and higher pay, for correction of craft and procedure, speedier grievance procedure, adequate pensions, improved seniority and piece work guarantees, improved holiday and vacation provisions.

More Contract Gains For UE at Tonawanda

UE workers at two Tonawanda plants, after rejecting efforts of Carey agents to get them to secede from UE, have won substantial gains in their UE contracts.

At Buffalo Bolt a pay raise of 8 cents an hour across-the-board, was won by UE Local 319. The increase is effective Jan. 1. Additional gains can be sought later in the year as the expiration date of the contract is July 15, 1950.

At Spaulding Fibre UE Local 312 obtained a package increase of 9.2 cents. This consists of an across-the-board raise of 6 cents an hour and payments by the company of 3.2 cents more on group insurance, so that the company now pays the whole cost.

The contract has been extended to Mar. 1, 1951.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS
UNIFIED ELECTRICAL, RADIO AND
MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA
SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

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Elected Guide



Shop Steward
Floyd E. Warner,
elected to be
the 301 guide
for 1950.
His duty will
be to admin-
ister the oath
of office to
new shop
stewards.

CIO Again Gives Up Taft-Hartley Fight

Even before Congress returns to Washington, the CIO is providing alibis for continued failure of the Truman Administration to have Taft-Hartley repealed.

The official PAC-CIO publication of Dec. 26 said "TAFT-HARTLEY REPEAL STILL TRUMAN'S No. 1 LABOR POLICY, but lack of votes in the present Congress forces this issue into the 1950 election."

The very next day Chairman Thomas (Democrat) of the Senate Labor committee gratefully seized on this excuse and announced new efforts to kill Taft-Hartley will have to wait until 1951.

The CIO gave up the fight a year ago too, before it ever got started, and started talking "compromise" at the very outset. UE said then and says today that Taft-Hartley can be repealed at once if there's a united and sincere drive to do it.

301 Making Survey To Assist Jobless

Local 301 this week started sending questionnaires to unemployed members, to get information which will make it easier to protect their seniority rights and to help them.

They are being asked the date of lay-off and whether they are still laid off, whether they are getting unemployment insurance, whether they have found temporary or part-time work, or a satisfactory job, and whether they intend to return to GE if recalled.

The Local 301 committee on unemployment has speeded up unemployment insurance checks for many members of the union in the past few months through talking up their grievances over delays with the Schenectady unemployment insurance office. The union committee also has obtained unemployment insurance credits for workers who were not paid for all or part of vacation-layoffs.

More Awards Obtained For Injured Workers

Recent awards made in Workmen's Compensation cases handed through the union included:

\$960 to Myrtle Bratt, spot welder in Bldg. 285, for injuries to a finger suffered Jan. 7.

\$960 to Walter Scofield, assembly erector in Bldg. 16, for injuries to his left thumb Oct. 15, 1948.

\$840 to Casimir Ermel, Bldg. 285 tool maker, for injuries to his right thumb Oct. 7, 1948.

\$608 to Anthony Favata, Bldg. 60 painter, for injuries to a toe Feb. 16.

\$547 to Mathew John, Bldg. 18 inspector, for injuries to a toe Jan. 26.

\$288 to DeWitt Toll, Bldg. 285 radio drill operator, for injuries to two fingers July 9, 1948.

A Big Moment



Wide-eyed youngster receiving a gift from Santa Claus at the 301 Christmas party.

Fighting Rate Cuts On Boring Mill Jobs

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could be separated from the finishing.

The move has been recognized generally by the Turbine membership as the start of general wage-cutting on other jobs, as part of the company's drive to speed-up and downgrade workers in the name of "lower production costs." The company is taking full advantage of the "Imitation UE" drive to split the workers.

The second shift operators met Tuesday after work. They proposed a joint meeting of Turbine members from all shifts, and named members to a special committee to recommend action. On the committee from the second shift are Julius Laveyre, Fred Shufelt, John Grounds and Robert Truworth.

The first and third shift operators met Wednesday night (after this paper went to press).

Local 301 also has asked for prompt discussion of the dispute with the national GE management.

Pensioners to Meet

The UE-301 Pension Organization will meet at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the union hall.

Hearing at Utica

Federal Judge Brennan heard arguments in Utica Tuesday as to whether his court has jurisdiction in the action Local 301 has brought to prevent the Carey group from using the number "301" in the "Imitation UE" name. Lawyers are to file briefs on the jurisdiction question.

The Big Steal

The United States Steel Corporation and other major steel companies in the last two weeks have raised the price of steel an average of four dollars a ton.

An official publication of the CIO, complaining about this price jump, pointed out:

"A few weeks ago the President's Fact Finding Board for the steel industry said that unless the steel companies reduced prices the CIO Steelworkers union would be justified in asking for wage increases."

But the CIO publication, of course, didn't point out the rest of the facts, that the agreement which Murray made with the steel companies sold out the workers' right to ask for a pay raise during 1950 no matter what happened. In other words, Murray went even further than the Truman board did in appeasing the companies on the wage issue.

Crowd Was as Big at Second Day's Christmas Party as at First



Picture of the second part of the 301 children's Christmas party Dec. 11 at Mont Pleasant High School.

Carey's Sell-out of Philco Workers

Last week James B. Carey gave forth a great blast of publicity about a "victory" for his "Imitation UE" in negotiating a pension plan at Carey's home local at Philco in Philadelphia.

The ballyhoo is a perfect example of the "big whopper" method used by Carey and his friends to try to cover up a real sell-out of the workers by calling it a great victory.

In line with the established practice in Carey's local, the Philco workers do not yet know what is in the plan, because it has been accepted as an "understanding," with the actual details to be worked out later. Certain facts are clear from what Carey allowed to get into the papers.

Lagging Behind RCA

For a long time Philco in Philadelphia has had a company union set-up, with neither the members nor the international UE seeing a copy of the contract. In order to protect the company union set-up, for the past three years the company has given certain benefits every year after the UE had won a settlement at RCA. But the Philco deal was always inferior to the RCA settlement. The Philco contract has lagged far behind the one at RCA on wages and other issues.

The big "victory" now announced by Carey is the same thing over again. The workers at RCA, after a strike vote, won a wage increase, better holidays and vacations, and a company-paid insurance and sickness plan.

The Philco deal gives up any wage increase for 1950. It brought none of the other RCA improvements. But they received the Steel pension plan, with present social

They Ought to Make Their Stories Match

Really, those "Imitation UE" boys ought to be a little careful about letting their imagination run wild or they'll embarrass even the CIO News.

Michael Fitzpatrick, "Imitation UE" director for western Pennsylvania, was quoted recently in The People's Press, the CIO paper in Erie, Pa., on the Carey outfit's contract with Philco at Philadelphia.

He claimed that the company "will continue to pay into the pension plan the same amount of money it will pay under the initial agreement regardless of increase in social security which may be made in the future." According to Fitzpatrick a pensioned Philco worker "will receive additional benefits and larger pensions with the enactment of more social security laws."

But this is what the CIO News of Dec. 19 said about the Philco plan.

"In the event of an increase in social security the company will reduce its payments to the fund in the amount of the increase in its tax payments to the government."

A Dozen Blood Donors

In response to a recent appeal printed by EIU News, 12 workers donated blood for the young son of Ernest Fountain, Building 84 wireman. The boy had to have transfusions when he underwent a serious operation. His father is deeply grateful for the help received in this emergency.

Canadian Westinghouse Contract Won by UE

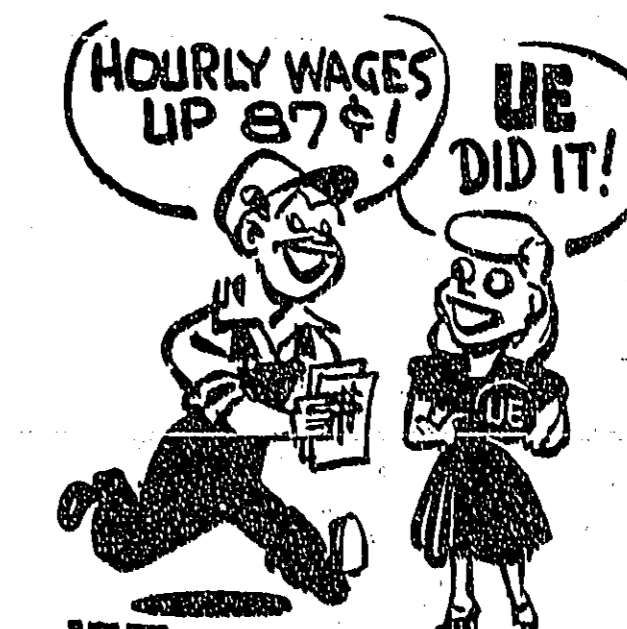
Westinghouse UE Local 504 in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, has signed a new contract which sets new standards in the entire electrical manufacturing industry in Canada. The victory was scored in spite of efforts of Carey agents to disrupt the local.

The contract provides these major gains:
Reduced work week from 42½ hours to 40 hours. (The work week in Canada for basic steel is 44 hours and in steel fabricating, 48 hours.)

A general wage increase of seven to 12 cents an hour. A minimum rate of \$1.10 per hour. (Steel has \$1.04 minimum in Canada.)

Increasing night turn bonus by one cent to six and eight cents. (Basic steel has no night turn bonus in Canada.)

Improved seniority provision. Improved vacation. The contract runs for 18 months with a wage reopener in one year.



Answers for GE Workers

Because of requests from many members, the editorial committee has directed that the following questions and answers be printed, with regard to the matter of a Taft-Hartley Labor Board (NLRB) vote to determine representation of GE Workers.

Q. Will there be an NLRB vote in this plant?

A. Yes. Under Taft-Hartley, GE's asking for an election means there will be one, even if the "Imitation UE" cannot get enough applications to justify an election.

Q. When will the NLRB vote be held?

A. It is impossible to tell, because the Taft-Hartley NLRB and the companies are working together with the Carey "IUE." They know that if elections were held soon in GE, for example, in most plants the Carey outfit would not stand the ghost of a chance. So the NLRB is stalling on the GE situation, and pushing hearings on plants where the "IUE" wants them.

Q. What is UE's position on the NLRB vote?

A. UE welcomes an NLRB vote wherever there is the slightest doubt as to who represents the workers. Already in November UE formally proposed to the NLRB that consent elections be arranged for March 15 in the two biggest chains, GE and Westinghouse, as the contracts expire April 1. That way the workers would get the benefit of the contract and everything would be straightened out for negotiations for the new contract.

Q. Since GE and the "IUE" both have asked for elections, and UE has proposed a consent election, what's the hold-up?

A. The NLRB has not even called a preliminary meeting with the various groups involved in the GE election matter. The NLRB and the companies are working together with the Carey "IUE." They know that if elections were held soon in GE, for example, in most plants the Carey outfit would not stand the ghost of a chance. So the NLRB is stalling on the GE situation, and pushing hearings on plants where the "IUE" wants them.

Q. What is the effect of the NLRB's stalling on the UE's proposed consent election at GE?

A. It might very well mean that the issue raised by the company and the Carey outfit would not be settled until after the contract expired, and this would give the company another excuse to raise trouble. The company and the "IUE" can delay the GE election by their refusal to agree to the March 15 proposal and then by raising all kinds of questions in formal hearings.

Q. Why did GE file petitions for elections?

A. Both GE and Westinghouse say they filed because they were in doubt as to who represents their employees. That is just an excuse. All they had to do under the law was to deal with UE until some other outfit might be named by the workers in any one plant. The truth is that the two big companies asked for elections because in many plants the "IUE" could not show enough membership to justify elections. So the companies helped them out by asking for elections.

Q. Will the NLRB election cover the whole company, or each plant separately?

A. The past practice of the NLRB has always been to have separate elections in each plant. This would mean that the union winning in one plant would represent that plant regardless of the vote elsewhere. In fact the formal hearings planned by the board present the danger that some small outfits will be encouraged to try to break small groups in any one plant away from the plantwide bargaining unit.

Q. Who can vote in an NLRB election?

A. All the employees in the "bargaining unit" set up either by consent of the company and unions, or by formal decision of the NLRB after hearings. Factory workers and salaried office workers are generally in separate bargaining units.

Q. What happens in a plant if the "Imitation UE" wins the NLRB election?

A. The workers there will have to start from scratch to negotiate a contract. In the 40 cases where raids by CIO unions on UE plants were successful in the past two years, the conditions were driven down.

Q. What happens when the UE wins?

A. The present contract will serve as the starting point for negotiating the next contract, and the workers will decide what improvements they want to fight for. That is true regardless of whether GE serves the 90-day notice of cancellation of contract by January 1, or agrees to let the contract continue. That is what happened in 1946. GE cancelled the contract. The new contract contained the benefits of the old one and additional gains.

NOTE: Members having questions about any union matters which they feel would be of interest to the membership generally are invited to submit them. Send them to Miss Mary McCartin, chairman, 301 editorial committee, at the union hall.

Too Much Party



The excitement of the 301 Christmas party wore out this young guest, Linda Van Wagner.

Company Reneges On New Check-off

General Electric reneged this week on last week's agreement to work out a new form of dues check-off authorization. Such new authorization was intended to clear away the company's trumped-up objections to paying the check-off money to the union in accordance with the contract.

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the works manager, notified Leo Jandreau on Tuesday that now the company lawyers would not agree to work out a new check-off form, and would not permit the local management to postpone the January dues deductions pending discussion, as Stevens had agreed last week.

What 301's next step will be in the situation will come up at the shop stewards' meeting next Tuesday.

The question of another possible way of settling the check-off issue was discussed this week by Jandreau with George Pfeif, of top GE management, who said he would take it up with the company lawyers.

It is evident, however, that the aim of the GE lawyers is to tangle the situation up as much as possible in order to hamper UE functioning.

15 Cent Increase

A two week strike at Kalon Radio Company, New York City, brought a pay increase of 15 cents an hour and other gains to the workers in their first UE contract.

New Shop Stewards Will Meet Tuesday

Newly elected shop stewards of the first and third shifts will be sworn in at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, at the union hall at the regular monthly stewards' meeting.

Normally the second shift stewards would meet with them, but because of Supreme Court Justice John Alexander's order limiting the use of the union's funds, the second shift group cannot be paid for lost time. Therefore second shift stewards will take their oath of office and have their meeting at 1 p.m. Tuesday afternoon. This timing was arranged to carry out the unanimous decision of the 301 membership meeting last week that all meetings for second shift workers should precede those for the other shifts. Second shift workers requested this arrangement.

The membership meeting also voted that shop stewards must take their oath of office at the union hall before their names can be sent to Building 41 for recognition. The bulk of the shop stewards' elections took place Thursday and Friday of last week. The election committee had to make special arrangements for run-off balloting in cases of tie votes, and for some later elections, as in instances where there was difficulty in getting an entire group together because of part-time work.

Big UE Victory At Sunbeam Plants

Workers at the three Chicago plants of the Sunbeam Corporation voted for UE over the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL, in a National Labor Relations Board election Dec. 13. The IBEW was openly backed by the company, which had also tried to promote the "Imitation UE", the International Association of Machinists, the AFL Polishers and Buffers and the AFL Operating Engineers. The IBEW was the only one to get on the ballot to oppose the UE, however. UE won by 1,488 votes to 1,016.

Although the Imitation UE was ruled off the ballot for lack of membership application cards, the Carey agents campaigned against UE right up to the election day. The plant has been open shop since the suspension of the UE contract June 1. Management has engaged in a six month campaign of intimidation and red-baiting against UE members, especially active UE shop stewards.