



HELPING HAND. Art Swanson drops a can of fruit into one of the collection boxes set up Tuesday and Wednesday to help striking members of UE Local 601 at the Nuttall Plant of Westinghouse near Pittsburgh. Phil Cognetta and Bill Mastriani are in charge of this box.

Humphrey Committee Aims to "Do Job" On Union, Local 301 Observer Reports

The Humphrey Committee is just "another part of the extended IUE-CIO plan to do a job on UE," Dewey Brashear told the UE 301 Executive Board on Monday night.

Brashear made this statement after returning from a trip to Washington where he had sat in, as a 301 representative, on hearings of the Senate group which is allegedly investigating labor-management relations.

The board member pointed out that IUE President Jim Carey had been given a full day to testify before the Humphrey group, GE Vice President L. R. Boulware had been given five hours, but two UE representatives, Organizational Director James Matles and National Legislative Representative Russ Nixon, had been given a total of only two hours.

Brashear also noted that Senator Humphrey had repeatedly defended Carey, even when Boulware took cracks at him. The 301 representative further said that Boulware had told the committee that Carey had personally asked him for help in replacing CIO President Philip Murray when Murray retired.

Brashear reported on another exchange between the committee and Boulware, in which the GE executive said there was a need for legislation to ban political strikes. Asked by the committee to name any such strikes which had occurred in the past, Boulware admitted that he could think of none. He finally asserted that there was a need for legislation to "outlaw rabble rousing."

Both Matles and Nixon, speaking on behalf of UE, asserted that the union was proud of its record and that it opposed all attempts at

establishing political controls over organized labor. They charged that the IUE leaders were seeking through law to break UE because they knew that they could never accomplish this through democratic union elections.

Anti-Reuther Oath?

Three more units in Ford Local 600 have voted against supporters of CIO autoworkers' President Walter Reuther, who seized the local several months ago. Anti-Reuther feeling appears to be so high that one Ford worker commented, "It's almost as though you have to take an anti-Reuther oath to run in Ford 600, just like the anti-communist oath in the Taft-Hartley law."

Chemical Supports Anti-Speedup Campaign

Building 77 workers unanimously endorsed UE Local 301 Executive Board proposals to combat a growing management speed-up plan in a meeting held on Tuesday. It was the first of a series of works-wide meetings planned to discuss the board plan.

Since Building 77, the chemical division, is the scene of the most concentrated company drive to layoff workers while speeding up the remaining force, the vote was regarded as particularly important.

The chemical workers voted, in effect, to adhere strictly to job definitions and to refuse to do any work outside of their classifications when they return from vacation next month.

The meeting was presided over by Board member Vince Di Lorenzo and addressed by Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani.

They reported on management's laying off of 41 workers in the past six months and on the combining of jobs and speeding up of other workers in order to take up the slack which resulted from layoffs. Several members told of their personal experiences with the new speedup plan, and asserted that chemical was apparently a testing ground for a speedup system which GE intended to introduce throughout the works.

Other divisional meetings were scheduled to be held on Thursday. For earlier story, see page 3.

Democrats Endorse Campbell, GOP Foe of Organized Labor

An apparent sell-out on the part of the Schenectady County Democratic Party leadership threatens to assure the re-election of Republican State Senator Thomas Campbell without opposition.

GOP Platform Is Same Old Anti-Labor Stand

Any hopes that the Republican Party might take a somewhat enlightened position on organized labor, at least for the duration of the election campaign, were destroyed with the publication of the GOP 1952 platform. It shows that the party has chosen to stand pat on the Taft-Hartley law.

The labor plank in the platform, adopted without dissent or discussion by the Republican National Convention, said flatly: "We favor retention of the Taft-Hartley law."

This came as no surprise since both leading contenders for the GOP Presidential nomination have spoken warm words of praise for the anti-union legislation condemned by all of organized labor. The nominee, General Eisenhower, was only slightly less enthusiastic about T-H than its author, Senator Robert A. Taft.

The GOP platform also sides squarely with the steel companies and against the workers in the steel strike. On two other issues of importance to labor, public housing and civil rights, the Republicans took stands in line with their endorsement of Taft-Hartley.

The party platform on civil rights was written with the obvious aim of pleasing the Dixiecrats. It also came out against rent control. No mention was made of such key issues as construction of public housing, increasing minimum wages or improving social security benefits.

Democratic County Chairman John English announced last weekend that his organization would endorse the candidacy of Campbell and Assembly Speaker Oswald Heck. Campbell's record shows him to be 100 per cent opposed to the interests of organized labor.

This spring when UE Local 301 joined with virtually every trade union in New York State in opposition to the infamous Hughes-Brees unemployment insurance law, Campbell was visited by a delegation from the Schenectady local. He promised that the would work for some changes in the law, which is rigged in favor of the big corporations and against the workers. However, he completely reneged on his promises and wound up among the leading supporters of Hughes-Brees.

At the time, many union members marked the defeat of Campbell high on their list of political action musts for this fall. This defeat was thought to be a strong possibility since Campbell ran far behind the Republican ticket when he was last elected to the Senate in 1950.

Interestingly enough, the Democratic move to support Campbell seems to have been largely a one-man decision by English. Several Democratic leaders, questioned by EU News, asserted that they had not known of the endorsement until they read the story in Monday morning's newspaper. English apparently made a deal with the GOP to support Campbell and Heck in exchange for Republican backing for several Democratic candidates for minor offices.

Evidently, the top Democratic leadership was more interested in getting second-rate patronage favors than in their party's avowed pro-labor and anti-Hughes-Brees platform.

The Hughes-Brees law deprives many workers of unemployment insurance benefits through setting up a complicated series of hearings, and by making it pay for the employers to contest claims of workers they lay off. It also cuts the length of payment for many workers from 52 to 26 weeks.



Jamestown, N. Y.—The first UE contract signed at the Jamestown Metal Products Co. has brought wage raises of up to 31 cents an hour for workers there. A nickel of the increase was made retroactive to January 1, with the rest in effect as of July 7.

New York—Employees of 23 Liggett Drug Stores in the Metropolitan area have won a 40-hour week. The members of Local 1199 of the Distributive, Processing and Office Workers of America obtained an agreement similar to that gained recently by Whalen Drug workers through a strike.

Rock Island, Ill.—Workers at the International Harvester Farm-all Plant added another victory in the long string won by UE in the farm equipment industry. They voted for continued representation through UE Local 109F by a vote of 156 to 79 for the raiding AFL machinists.

Waterbury, Conn.—Nearly 6,000 CIO autoworkers struck last week against seven big brass companies in this center of the industry. The walkout took place after year-old wage re-opener negotiations had broken down. The striking UAW members received full support from the independent International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.

Wausau, Wis.—The National Labor Relations Board was forced to issue a formal complaint against the Marathon Electric Corp. last week after pressure was exerted by CIO and AFL unions in this area, as well as by the UE. The complaint charges the company with locking out 600 members of UE Local 1113 on February 28, refusing to negotiate and illegally cancelling the contract.

Chicago—A message of support from a CIO autoworkers' local boosted the morale of members of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers striking against the Chicago plant of the Stewart Die Casting Corp. The message was from the union representing the workers in the Bridgeport, Conn., plant of the same company.

Members Vote to Back Anti-Speedup Measures at Meetings Throughout Works

The policy of combatting management speedup attempts by strict adherence to job definitions as they exist under the contract won wide support from UE Local 301 membership this past week. This support was voiced in departmental meetings held throughout the works by

Addresses District



CLIFFORD T. McAVOY

Cite UE Gains at Upstate Meeting

Citing the continuous gains in membership made by UE in recent months, National President Albert Fitzgerald declared Sunday that "if we continue our fight in the interests of the working people, no force on earth will be able to destroy our union."

Fitzgerald addressed the regular meeting of the UE District Three Council, which represents 30,000 workers in Upstate New York, at Jamestown. He paid particular tribute to the district's successful warding off of raids and to its organization of new shops.

Another speaker at the council meeting was UE Legislative Representative Clifford T. McAvoy, who urged an intensified drive to make sure that candidates friendly to organized labor are elected this fall. McAvoy pointed out that an election year makes public officials much more willing to listen to union representatives. He said that many congressmen and legislators who formerly ignored UE communications are now taking the trouble to send back extremely friendly letters.

The council adopted a set of resolutions to be presented to the September National Convention of UE. Many of these resolutions followed the pattern of those already approved by the membership.

members of the union Executive Board. The board decided to call these meetings on July 14, when it first outlined the policy.

The decision was made after representatives of Building 40, 77 and 273 had reported speedup and layoffs brought about by combination of jobs in their areas. The similarity among many of the cases reported indicated clearly that a works-wide speedup policy was in the process of developing. The board decided that this policy had to be nipped in the bud if union conditions were to be maintained.

This was particularly true because of the existence of the wage freeze. The 301 leadership felt that apparently the company, not satisfied with wages being held down by government edict, were now out to make sure that they got more production for their frozen paychecks.

It was also felt that beating management speedup policies now was particularly important because of the impending contract modification negotiations.

If the pattern established by the big steel companies and other corporations is followed, then an attempt to get a green light for speedup, as well as attacks on the job security and seniority provis-

At Shop Meetings



WILLIAM MASTRIANI

ions of the contract, can be expected.

In an effort to make sure that any GE maneuvers along these lines don't get off the ground, UE Local 301 has already arranged to hold a meeting with Schenectady Works Manager Lewis Male.

The first meeting to be held in the works on the question was in Building 77, which has been the hardest hit section in the GE speedup drive. Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani reported the Executive Board decision to the Chemical Division workers, who gave it to their unanimous approval.

Among the other buildings which have reported meetings are 10, 18, 40, 52, 53, 59, 89 and 273.

Tomorrow's UE 301 Baseball Booster Night

UE Local 301 will hold its first Booster Night tomorrow at Schenectady Stadium, when the Blue Jays tangle with the Hartford Chiefs in a regular Eastern League baseball game.

Tickets to the game are being sold by the local with board members and shop stewards in charge of distribution. Sales booths have also been set up at the works gates. The union will get 10 cents on every dollar adult ticket sold and five cents on each half price children's ticket. However, Local 301 will profit only on tickets it sells directly and not on those sold at the gate tomorrow evening.

The special UE night ceremonies tomorrow will include a brief talk by 301 President James Cognetta. The union is also donating prizes to outstanding Blue Jay performers. These awards include:

- \$15 to the Schenectady player hitting the first home run.
- \$10 to the Blue Jay hitting the first triple.
- Five Dollars each to the local player driving the first double and to the player scoring the first run.
- \$10 to the pitcher chalking up the most strikeouts.
- Game time for the contest will be 7:30 p.m.

GE Warns of Steel Closings in August

Buildings 57 and 95, the steel and iron foundries, will be shut down on August 4 unless the steel strike ends in the next few days, General Electric management has revealed.

The projected shutdowns will be the first such moves involving large numbers of workers in the Schenectady works. The company estimated that about 100 persons were sent home for lack of work resulting from the steel shortage this week. The reported figure last week was about 50.

Meanwhile, the seven-week-old strike continued into this week with chances of a settlement appearing somewhat brighter. However talks on Monday and Tuesday failed to produce any settlement.

The big companies continued to try to sell the line that the union shop demand of the CIO steelworkers was the sole thing blocking agreement. Actually, Big Steel's demands to abolish seniority rights and get the right to speedup at will are as important as the union shop issue.

These demands are typical of similar proposals being thrown at unions throughout the country in what has developed into a concerted industry drive to weaken and destroy all unions.

It has been against just such a drive that UE has warned for several years. The union has pointed out that the splitting and raiding tactics of many unions were help-



WHY SHOULD PEOPLE BE WORRIED ABOUT BEING UNEMPLOYED? I HAVEN'T WORKED A DAY IN ALL MY LIFE!

ing to pave the way for destruction of all organized labor.

Any layoffs caused by the steel strike will not effect the insurance protection of those laid off according to a letter sent by GE management to the union. Arrangements will be made so that payroll deductions are taken out after workers return to their jobs.

The company also said it would not remove from the payroll anyone laid off due to the steel situation after two weeks of idleness, as is the usual practice.

Continue Wilson Strike

The 125 employees of the Schenectady plant of the Wilson Athletic Goods Manufacturing Co. plant voted last week to reject a management offer to renew the old contract, and to continue the strike begun on March 15.

The Wilson strikers, members of the CIO textile workers, also voted to press unfair labor charges against the company. These charges were first filed four months ago. The workers are seeking a 15-cent hourly wage increase and improved health and welfare provisions.

Boulware Admits He Aided Carey in 1950 NLRB Votes

GE Vice President L. R. Boulware has admitted that the company gave all-out assistance to the IUE-CIO in its splitting activities during 1950. The admission came during the executive's testimony before the Senate sub-committee hearings conducted in Washington by Senator Hubert Humphrey.

Arbitrator Cuts Textile Workers

Members of the CIO textile workers continued last week to take beatings at the hands of "impartial" arbitrators.

A decision rendered by Walter Gellhorn brought an eight and one-half cents an hour wage cut for 14,000 employees of 13 cotton-rayon mills in Massachusetts. It was the second such decision in recent weeks.

Even this slash in the living standards of the workers did not satisfy the millowners. They had asked for a 13½ cent cut, and one company president expressed keen disappointment, saying that the slash did not sufficiently reduce the differential between New England mills and those in the South.

The entire textile industry has been hard hit because of many companies running away to the South.

This runaway process has been possible largely because of the failure of the strife-torn textile union to organize southern workers or to attempt to break down Jim Crow employment conditions which enable employers to play white workers off against Negro workers.

The Boulware statement, which was read to the committee, declared that General Electric had filed its own petition for an NLRB election because it knew that IUE did not have sufficient membership in many GE plants to file for a vote. Under the Taft-Hartley law, 30 per cent of the persons in a bargaining unit must sign cards for a union, before that union can file for an NLRB ballot.

Here are Boulware's exact words on the aid given IUE by management:

"... we took Mr. Carey off the hook by filing our own petitions for an NLRB election. This, under NLRB rules, made it unnecessary for Mr. Carey to show any membership at all.

"Thus, IUE was given the unusual opportunity of having elections held at many plants without having to spend a nickel for organizing purposes. We even filed for plants on the West Coast, where practically everybody advised us that IUE had no following and wouldn't win a single election—as they didn't. While it was not our purpose to aid either side in this procedure, there can be little doubt that the effect of our filing was of immeasurable assistance to IUE."

Sylvania Asks Boost

A demand for a 15-cent hourly wage increase and the elimination of differentials in the job evaluation system for men and women workers topped the list of wage reopener demands unanimously adopted by the UE Sylvania Electric Conference Board.

The men working under Foreman Peebles has been forced to work under undesirable circumstances, with much of their work outside of their classification, as well as under other supervision. The foreman shows no regard for any problems presented to him by the union and its representatives and has actually told Steward Raymond Cartier that he would do as he pleases. The union charges Peebles with discrimination, intimidation and coercion and demands that management order him to cease these practices.

A group under Foreman Tucker charges him with doing common labor work, thereby infringing on the work of the group. We demand an end to the practice and the employment of additional help if it is necessary to handle the work load.



BOOSTER NIGHT SCENE. Schenectady Stadium will be taken over by UE Local 301 tomorrow night for Booster Night, with a regular Eastern League game between the Blue Jays and the Hartford Chiefs.

Win Pay Boosts, Upgrading For Eight Bldg. 28 Women

Eight women workers in Building 28 have won upgrading and wage increases of seven cents an hour in a grievance victory gained by UE Local 301.

The women were moved up from Class K inspectorships to Class J, with their pay rates going from \$1.40 to \$1.47 an hour. The case arose when the group complained to Steward Martha Montayne that they were doing higher class work than that falling under the Class J job definition.

The case was carried to the works management level where the promotion was agreed upon. It was also agreed to give further consideration to the possibility of granting similar upgrading to several other women. In all, there were 12 women in the group which originally filed the grievance.

The eight women to gain the higher rating are Nea Baxter, Norma Darling, Jenny Evans, Margaret Gallup, Mildred McGauley, Betty Ocken, Nancy Schom and Maxine Tubba.

Drawing Report

Receipts from the UE Local 301 "Giveaway" program totaled \$1,849.50 according to a count made at the beginning of the week. Some additional income is expected.

Profits from the highly successful sale of drawing tickets are likely to be earmarked for the financing of a union Field Day on September 1. Final plans for that day are now being completed by the Activities Committee.

The drawing for the six valuable "Giveaway" program prizes was held on July 14, with Harold Hanna of Building 89 taking the first prize, a week's vacation for two with expenses of up to \$100.

Set Inventory Dates

GE management has announced plans to take inventory in the Schenectady works on August 22 and September 26.

Nuttall Strikebreaking Plot Exposed, Smashed

Westinghouse Electric has been exposed by UE Local 601 as an employer of an outside strikebreaking agency in an effort to create a back-to-work movement among Nuttall workers who have been on strike since April 15.

The revelation that the big corporation brought the strikebreaking outfit, Ketchum, McCleod and Grove, to Pittsburgh to sabotage the strike was made at a crowded 601 membership meeting.

These exposures came in a dramatic fashion. Local 601 leadership learned of the plan to launch a back-to-work movement at a big membership meeting. They allowed the scabs to make their pitch up to a certain point. Then Local Vice President Bill Garrope got up and read the minutes of a secret meeting held between the few back-to-workers and the representatives of the strikebreaking outfit.

The workers at the meeting were enraged and demanded that the so-called leadership of the back-to-work group tell everything they knew about the plot. It was at this point that the nominal head of the would-be scabs admitted that he had received a list of names and addresses of all the strikers from the company.

The membership then adopted a resolution bitterly denouncing the back-to-work scheme and voted unanimously to continue the strike until Westinghouse abandons its

attempts to cut piece work rates and violate seniority.

Hiring of outside strikebreakers is nothing new in the history of company anti-union maneuvers. The LaFollete Senate Committee nearly 20 years ago presented an exhaustive report exposing the labor spy racket.

President Tells Council Of UE National Progress

(Continued from Page 1) of Local 301. They called for independent political action, repeal of Taft-Hartley, an end to the attacks on the civil liberties of the American people, an end to the wage freeze and an American foreign policy based on efforts to promote friendship among all the nations of the world.

Among the other actions taken by the District Council was approval of a \$500 contribution to General Cable strikers and \$100 contributions to UE locals on strike at the Nuttall Westinghouse plant and at Marathon Electric.

The 301 delegation included Joe Alois, Phil Cognetta, Joseph Kelly, William Mastriani, Helen Quirini and William Stewart. Stewart is Vice President of the district.

Turbine Pair Win Raises

Two workers in Building 273 have received wage increases as a result of a grievance case recently processed by UE Local 301.

In this case, the increase came only after two meetings held at the national level in New York. These two workers, W. Miller and S. Rychik, were awarded increases of five cents an hour plus retroactive pay, amounting to \$99.13 for Miller and \$76.93 for Rychik.

Their docket was opened almost a full year ago, in August, 1951, when they first went to their steward and complained that, although they had been transferred from jobs as floor assemblers to working as erector assemblers, they had failed to receive a rate not lower than two steps below the job rate as required under the contract.

Management maintained that the floor assembly job did not provide adequate experience for erector assembly, and therefore the two steps below provision of the contract did not apply. Unable to iron out the issue at the works management level, the union took the issue to the national level where GE top management refused to budge from the position taken in Schenectady.

However, the union felt that this case was important enough, not only in itself but also for the precedents it involved, to take to arbitration. It notified GE of its intention to take this action.

GE management, apparently realizing the weakness of their position before an arbitrator, then asked for a second meeting at the New York level. It was at this meeting that the wage increases and retroactive awards for Miller and Rychik were agreed upon.

Food Collection

Members of UE Local 601, who have been on strike against the Nuttall plant of Westinghouse near Pittsburgh for more than three months, will receive 45 cases of canned goods as a result of the plant gate collection taken last week by Local 301.

The collection was made through the Activities Committee after the Schenectady local's Executive Board had decided on the action in response to an appeal by the strikers, many of whom have serious financial problems.

Many cases of canned goods were bought with money contributed by 301 members to the collection. All of the food will be transported to the Nuttall strikers in a truck being sent up from Pittsburgh for the purpose.

UE ON THE JOB

Bldg. 16: Paul Carnivale, a drill press operator, believes his present job and earnings are unsatisfactory. His experience and record entitle him to a transfer which he requests.

Bldg. 29: The cooperative group which works on pressing S-636 mica, protest the new price of \$1.50 per press because it is inadequate and does not permit them to maintain their earnings. A proper adjustment in price is demanded.

Bldg. 66: James B. Novak was ordered to work on job 522-E-441 Roto Flange, without being paid or go home even though an entire group is protesting the inadequate price on this job. Novak correctly maintains that a price should have been negotiated before such an ultimatum was issued. This is a case of arbitrary intimidation and rectification of the situation is demanded.

Bldg. 68: The entire group of women working under Foreman Nowicki are protesting the conditions of their rest room, which is

too small and poorly ventilated. An investigation by supervision and correction of the situation is demanded.

Bldg. 273: Early in the day on June 30, Foreman Cuomo cautioned Shop Steward Rene Perrone and several other workers for allegedly eating during working hours and leaving their work area. Later, Perrone had occasion to discuss a grievance with Cuomo. The foreman brought up the previous incident and implied that bringing up grievances would only meet with reprisals. Shop Steward Perrone demands that this threat be withdrawn and that Cuomo be instructed by supervision on proper conduct in negotiating grievances.

On Bearing Job Dg. 8010637 — one and two, finish drill complete, average earnings have always been paid until recently when supervision issued a 7.70 standard price to cover the drilling operations. Adherence to the past practice of paying average earnings is demanded.

The group working under Foreman Jenner charges that he and

Thousands of grievances are handled by UE Local 301 each year at all levels from the steward up to final appeal in New York City. To keep members posted, we shall each week list some of the grievances that have not been settled at the steward-foreman level and have been referred to the executive board-management level.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA (UE) Local 301

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