

Leaflet Campaign In 301 Election

During the week before the election of convention delegates the local Carey-Block faction distributed leaflets nearly daily at the plant smearing UE policies, national UE leaders, Business Agent Leo Jandreau, the 301 Executive Board, and the Electrical Union News. Two of the leaflets were prepared by the Carey-Block group in District 6.

The final leaflet Tuesday had a cartoon labeled "Comrad Leo". Signatures of all the Carey-Block candidates were under this attack on Jandreau.

The Carey-Block faction issued several statements to the press during the campaign. They made use of Victor Riesel, notorious anti-labor columnist, who attacked Local 301 and Jandreau in a piece printed Monday in the New York Daily Mirror. It was so obviously based on untruths and distortions that even the Schenectady Union-Star, which carries the Riesel column ordinarily, omitted it.

Jandreau and the candidates running with him in support of national UE policies issued no campaign leaflets nor statements.

Board Issues Statement

The 301 Executive Board, however, issued a leaflet Tuesday urging the union membership to vote in the election and condemning the attacks on the union's election procedure. The leaflet consisted of a statement adopted by the Board at its special meeting Monday by a vote of 21 to 4.

"It now seems that every year as we go into negotiations with GE we face a smear attack fed to the newspapers by certain union members," the Board said.

"This year we have direct proof that the campaign was planned by outside forces who are guiding the Schenectady supporters of James Carey and Harry Block.

"The main attack centers on the arrangements for the election. Yet the so-called 'Democratic Action' supporters on the 301 Executive Board voted for every detail of the election arrangements—the date, the place, the tellers, the rules."

The statement pointed out that the Carey-Block group had slandered the four tellers, although three of them were elected to union office last December on coalition slates of the "Democratic Action" and

Daddy Boulware Turns to Mamma

Dear old Daddy Boulware last week ran to Mamma to cover up for his blunder of the previous week.

Someone must have told him that his piece in the Works News of May 27 about the "good" speed-up was a bit stupid.

So the Boulware piece in the June 3 issue entitled "Is Mamma in a 'Speed-Up' too?" attempts to cover up by confusing the picture. Now Boulware tries to make you believe that labor opposes progress and labor-saving machinery. This is a crude distortion.

Labor is for labor-saving devices. The question is: are such improvements used to benefit the workers with shorter hours and higher pay, or are they used to increase the load on the workers and lay thousands off?

Boulware talks of "periods of declining sales and jobs" as if such things fall from heaven. The fact is that Big Business, and specially GE, has used improvements in manufacturing methods to speed-up workers, reach new profit records, and create unemployment. Big-Business profiteering through the speed-up is the direct cause of unemployment. The Hoover depression proved that.

"Independent" supporters.

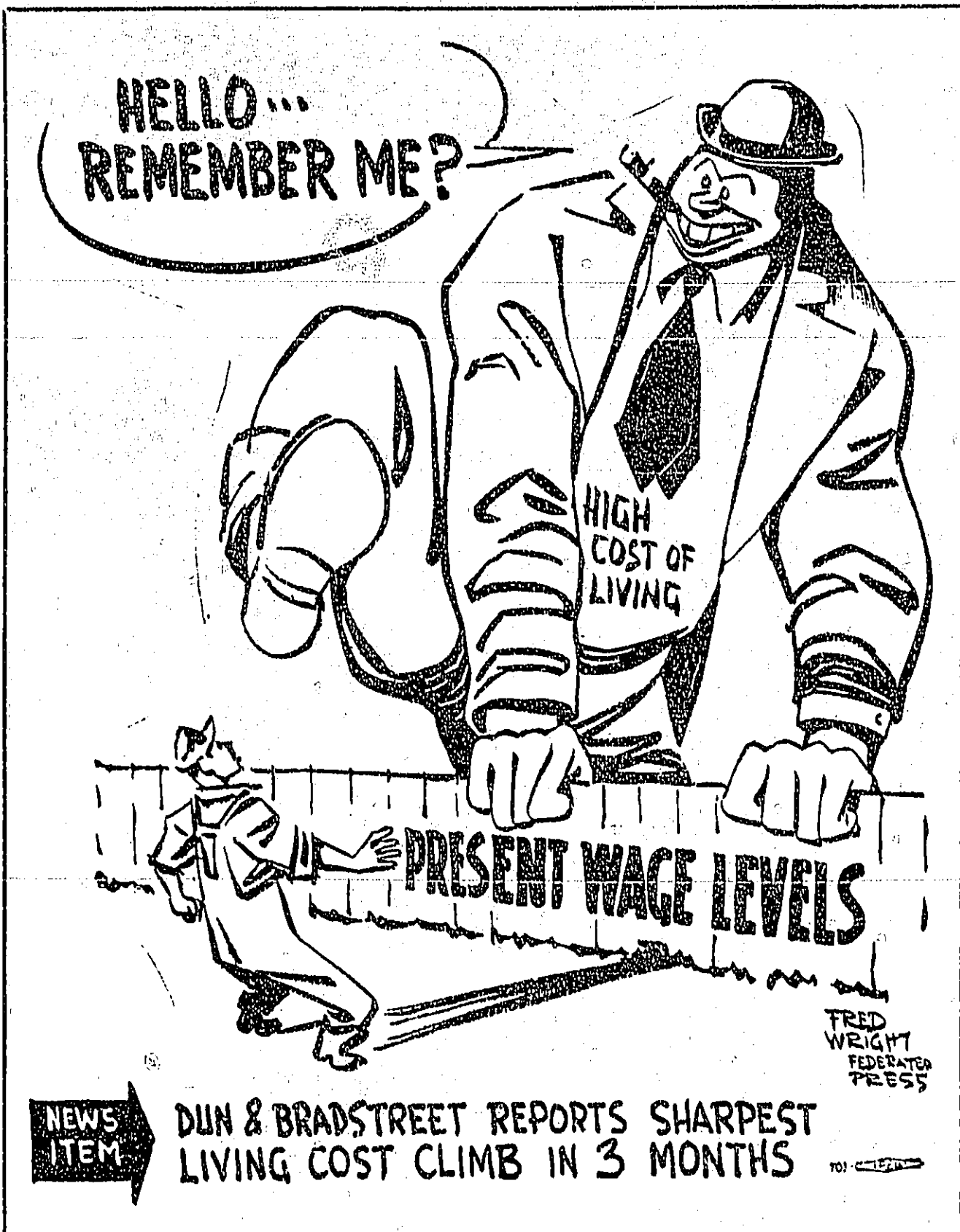
"Local 301, in meetings and in the Electrical Union News, has given to the membership the FACTS", the Board declared.

The statement urged the membership to back up the coming contract negotiations and maintain membership control of the UE by voting in the election.

The 21 who voted for the statement were: Joseph Kelly, Sidney Friedlander, Leo Sisto, Albert E. Davis, William Mastriani, Peter B. Pisano for Joseph Mangino, Dewey Brashear, Robert J. Phillips, Anthony J. Esposito, Frank Emspak for Willard Kusche, Helen Quirini, Sam Scott, William A. Stewart, William Hodges, William Templeton, James J. Cognetta, Henry Kaminski, Anthony Villano, John P. Brauneisen, Leo Jandreau and William A. Downs.

Voting "No" were Frank Fiorillo, Stephen Watts, Raymond Flanagan and Stanley Bishop.

Four members were absent, John Green, Edward J. La Bombard, Jr., Fred Paelli and Albert J. Spears.



DUN & BRADSTREET REPORTS SHARPEST LIVING COST CLIMB IN 3 MONTHS

CIO Warns Congress Against Mundt Bill

The national CIO has protested to Congress that the Mundt-Nixon-Ferguson bills would "substantially curtail civil rights guaranteed to every American."

Thomas Harris, assistant CIO counsel, warned a Senate subcommittee:

"Liberty is indivisible and repression contagious. Unless the civil rights of Communists are protected, those of others will not be."

He said the language of the bills is so broad "that they could be used to imperil the existence of all labor unions."

Did You Know?

Of the 29 million families with incomes of \$3000 (the average GE wage) or less, 11 million families held no savings during 1948. And 8½ million families had less than \$500 in savings. These are U. S. Federal Reserve Board figures.

MAKE JUNE 19 A FAMILY OUTING IT'S FIELD DAY

New Time Studies Ordered at Tiffin

The piece work standards set by GE on two field coil jobs, which were the principal cause of the successful 16-day strike at the Tiffin, Ohio, plant last February, have been ruled out by the arbitrator in the dispute.

The arbitrator ordered new time studies, with the proper allowances.

The dispute centered around the change from taping to cord tying of the field coils. The arbitrator held that the change made the work a new job, and that therefore the company was within its rights in setting temporary prices, but that the permanent standards set by the company studies were not valid.

Joseph Dermody, UE international representative and secretary of the GE Conference Board, declared that standards set by the company as the result of the new time studies will not be accepted unless they are satisfactory.

The account in the Works News was very misleading.

BUILD THE UNION

FIELD DAY SUNDAY

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301

U. E. R. & M. W. A.

C. I. O.

Vol. 7 — No. 23

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

JUNE 17, 1949

301 Check-up Reveals Silicosis Cases

GE High Pressure In MBA Campaign

After failing to push through the proposed amendments to the Mutual Benefit Association plan at a meeting of the MBA General Committee last Friday, GE officials are still fighting to put across their program.

It is reported that the amendments will be submitted again to a meeting of the General Committee June 24. Last week GE got only 51 votes of the 56 needed to make the two-thirds majority required for adopting any amendment.

Meader's Threat

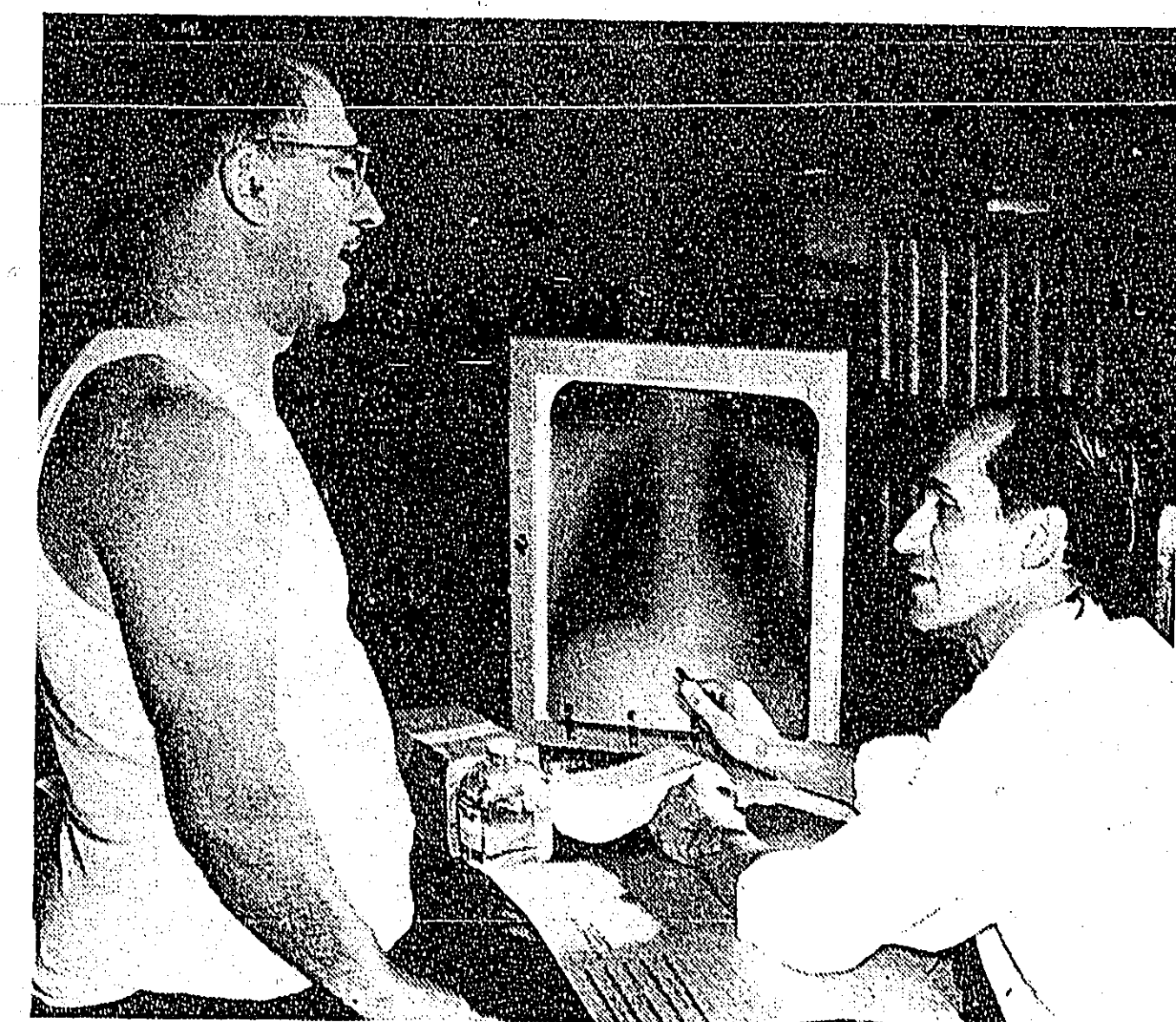
At the start of last Friday's meeting apparently not even 51 committee members favored the amendments proposed by the MBA leadership. J. C. Meader, MBA secretary, put on high pressure to line up votes. His remarks carried the threat that the whole MBA might be scrapped if the amendments weren't adopted by the time the new state Disability Law goes into effect. This threat ignores the fact that there is a union in the plant fighting for adequate disability benefits.

When this week's issue of EU News went to press Local 301 had received no answer to the letter Business Agent Leo Jandreau sent Works Manager Lewis J. Male June 9 on MBA. Jandreau repeated the union's request for a meeting with GE on the proposed amendments. The letter pointed out that under the new State Disability Law the MBA plan is clearly subject to collective bargaining.

Union's Objections

Jandreau said the union objects to the present set-up under which employees make all the contributions toward MBA and the company pays nothing but has contributed (Continued on Page 2)

Learning What X-Ray Means



Dominick Sparrano, left, Porcelain Division worker, has a consultation with Dr. Saul Solomon, lung expert retained by Local 301 to examine members for signs of silicosis.

GE Contract Talks Start in New York

Vice President L. R. Boulware and George Pfeif headed the unusually large General Electric Company committee at the opening of contract negotiations with UE Tuesday morning at the company offices in New York City.

UE was represented by its nine-man negotiating committee, elected by the GE Conference Board of UE, assisted by international officers and representatives. GE officials outnumbered them, however.

Assisting the UE negotiating committee were Albert J. Fitzgerald, general president, and Julius Emspak, secretary-treasurer. Both are former GE employees. Leo

Jandreau, 301 business agent, is the senior member of the committee.

Negotiations are under the contract reopening clause. The proposals adopted by the GE Conference Board and ratified by the membership call for an over-all increase of \$500 per year per employee, to cover higher wages, better pensions, improved health programs and other benefits, including shorter hours of work without cuts in pay. The negotiations continued Wednesday.

John Callahan, Pittsfield business agent, was removed from the negotiating committee with the un-

Board Sends Facts to GE; Asks Action

Silicosis has made heavy inroads among the Porcelain Division workers in Building 68, a check-up arranged by Local 301 has revealed.

Medical examinations made of 36 men and women disclosed seven severe cases of silicosis and 17 cases ranging from mild to moderate. The examinations were made last Saturday at the union hall by Dr. Saul Solomon, New York City lung specialist retained by the union.

56 Are X-Rayed

Several weeks ago the union had X-rays made of the lungs of 56 men and women working in Porcelain. Thirty-six of them appeared later for the medical examinations as a follow-up. There is at least one silicosis victim among the 20 workers who had only the X-rays and did not have the examination Saturday. The X-rays of one of these workers showed he has a severe case.

The union notified GE of these facts this week in a formal grievance case and charged the company with "gross neglect of the welfare of these workers." 301 asked management to meet at once on the health hazards revealed by (Continued on Page 2)

unanimous approval of the committee members. The action was based on his failure to support the bargaining program. Recently he sent GE proposals in direct conflict with the Conference Board program without consulting the Conference Board.

The committee voted to recommend to the next Conference Board meeting that Callahan be removed permanently from the committee.

FOR JOBS — 35 HOUR WEEK AT 40 HOURS' PAY

Silicosis Cases Revealed by 301

(Continued from Page 1)
the check-up, and to discuss the following proposals of the 301 Executive Board.

Board Recommendations
A joint survey should be made of conditions in Bldg. 68 to reduce or eliminate the dust hazard, with union experts present.

A joint survey should be made of the conditions of all workers exposed to these health hazards. This would mean the examination of the other Bldg. 68 workers and of workers in other sections with serious dust hazards, particularly the foundries and Mica. A list of the places, especially needing investigation was submitted. X-rays should be taken by the company and turned over to doctors named by the union.

Special compensation should be provided for workers already found to be affected by silicosis. Any worker who has to be transferred because of the disease should be guaranteed against any reduction in earnings. Silicosis victims not totally disabled should be compensated for reduced earnings.

Workers in Porcelain have told the union that they were not warned by the company of the effect of dust on their lungs and were not allowed to see X-rays made by the company. Most of the workers examined in the union check-up had not been examined by GE for over a year, it was reported.

Raise Obtained

A man classified as tallyman in the Knolls I research laboratory was reclassified to B stockkeeper last week, with a 4½-cent raise retroactive to May 2, through a grievance processed by Board Member Anthony Villano.

The Works Manager's office also agreed that in assigning the man to relief duty in various Knolls stockrooms, nothing would be done that would deprive him of his bargaining rights under the UE contract.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS
UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO
SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

Published by Editorial Committee
Mary McMartin, Chairman
Arthur R. Bertini, Secretary
William Christman, Frank D'Amico, Victor Pasche

Editorial Office
ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS
301 Liberty St., Schenectady, N. Y.
Telephone 3-1386

Just What He Wanted!



"I gave Percival a gold statue of Senator Taft for Father's Day."

15 Per Cent Discount Offered on Clothing

Members of Local 301 can get a 15 per cent discount on goods they buy from Bi-Mor Government Surplus, 232 State St., if they show cards provided by the Bi-Mor company to the union. Shop stewards started distributing the cards this week.

A discount card may be used by a 301 member or any member of his family. It must be shown to the cashier when the bill is paid and is good any day except a sale day. The discount does not apply to tobacco.

Bi-Mor sells men's clothing, camping supplies, and women's dungarees. The store will be open to 9 p.m. Thursday and Fridays.

The 301 membership voted at a recent meeting to authorize distribution of the discount cards in the shops.

IS Your Shop 100% UE?

GE High Pressures In MBA Campaign

(Continued from Page 1)

trolling power. GE appoints the main officers of MBA and can veto any change which the people themselves desire.

The union letter said that many inadequacies of MBA should be corrected and listed as examples:

Pensioners should be entitled to full benefits after their retirement. Disability benefits should be paid for time lost because of pregnancy. The maximum payment of \$26 should be increased.

Allowances for surgery should be increased and expenses for laboratory fees, transfusions, x-rays, etc. should be covered.

The one week waiting period should be eliminated.

The union takes the position that the workers should be protected by having direct union representation on MBA. The need for this is shown by the large number of valid claims for benefits which the present MBA officials have turned down.

UE Jobless to Ask Action at Capitol

Unemployed UE members from all parts of the country will be in Washington Monday and Tuesday to press for action against unemployment and for extending "52 20" unemployment insurance benefits for veterans of the recent war.

Local 301 will be represented by Robert Northrop, World War II veteran recently laid off from his job as a punch press operator in Building 17. He was formerly secretary-treasurer of the Capital District CIO Council. The 301 Executive Board named him Monday to be the 301 delegate.

The UE group will meet Sunday in Washington to map their plans for calling on Administration leaders and members of Congress the next two days. They also want to meet members of the Council of Economic Advisers.

If You Are Laid Off

Members who are laid off for lack of work and not placed on other jobs are reminded to register at the union office. By keeping in touch with the union they will protect their seniority rights under the contract. They can also come to the union for assistance on their rights under the unemployment insurance law, veteran's legislation, etc. Dues for unemployed members are 10 cents a month.

UE Presents
Arthur Gaeth
10 p.m. Monday
WXXKW

UE Won Too Much Canadian GE Says

The Canadian GE has combined its refusal to grant a pay raise with an unconscious tribute to UE, during the negotiations on renewal of the master contract for Canadian GE plants represented by UE. The company told the UE Joint Committee that UE has won for GE workers more than other unions have won, and therefore the workers aren't entitled to any increase in 1949.

Canadian UE members are complaining to management at the various plants about the company's stalling tactics in the contract negotiations.

GE has not denied that it is behind the efforts to form a company union at the Montreal plant. It has refused the UE proposal for a "consent election" under government supervision, such as the company agreed to at Cobourg and Barrie. New employees hired at Montreal are taken on a tour of the plant by company union leaders, according to the Canadian UE News.

Higher Price Won On Boring Mill Job

The boring mill price dispute in Building 60 has been settled as the result of a determined stand by the operators. The job, on the big mills, was the object of a time study two months ago, which ran over three weeks. Supervision then set the price at \$355, which the men said was figured to enable them to make the AER (anticipated earning rate) instead of normal earnings. The group took the position that they could not accept time studies on this basis.

The case was taken to Works Manager Lewis J. Male. After the job was "watched" a second time by the foremen, a new price of \$380 was negotiated with Shop Stewards Joseph Alois and Ted Wheeler.

BOUGHT YOUR TICKET FOR 301 FIELD DAY?

Father's Day Prize On Field Day Program

There will be a special Father's Day prize awarded Sunday at the 301 field day.

The Activities Committee will give a surprise award to the father who attends with the greatest number of his children. No fair borrowing the kids up the street!

Observers to Attend Civil Rights Meeting

The 301 Executive Board voted Monday, 21 to 3, to send two observers to the Conference on Civil and Human Rights called for June 25 in New York City by the Civil Rights Congress of New York.

Treasurer William Downs and Board Member Joseph Kelly were chosen to attend. Under the motion passed by the Board, they are to attend only as observers to gather facts and report them to the 301 membership. They are not authorized to vote or to commit 301 to any action taken by the conference.

The invitation to the conference was sent to Local 301 by Henry V. Allen of the Schenectady chapter, Civil Rights Congress. Allen, a retired GE engineer, pointed out the meeting will be of particular interest to trade unions.

The call to the conference stated that the "right of every American to live by his own conscience" is being challenged today by recent developments.

Cites Recent Developments

It declares that 12 Communist leaders on trial in New York are being tried "not for anything they have done, or plan to do, but solely for what they think." If they are convicted, "it will mean that every American will be deprived of the right to judge and choose what political party to support, what books he may read, what beliefs he may hold," the statement said.

The statement also listed as reasons for calling the conference the wave of "loyalty" probes of government employees, the attacks on labor unions, growing anti-Semitism, censoring of text books, the blacklisting of progressive writers.

Increasing instances of violence against the Negro people were mentioned, including the six Negroes condemned to die in Trenton, N. J. for a crime they did not commit, the imprisonment of Mrs. Rosa Ingram in Georgia for defending herself and children, and police brutality in New York.

Roll-call Vote

Board members voting to send observers were: John Green, Helen Quirini, Joseph Kelly, Dewey Brahear, William Downs, Albert E. Davis, Fred Pacelli, Willard Kuschel, Leo Sisto, Henry Kaminski, William Hodges, Anthony Villano, James Cognetta, A. J. Spears, William Stewart, Marshall White for William Templeton, Peter Pisano for Joseph Mangino, E. J. La Bombard Jr., Sidney Friedlander, William Mastriani and Anthony Esposito.

Voting "No" were Raymond Fla-

Farmers Union Helps UE Strikers



Strikers at the Singer Sewing Machine Company plant, Elizabeth, N. J., receiving the first weekly truckload of chickens, eggs and vegetables from the Eastern Division of the Farmers Union. Lou Slocum, at extreme right, delivering the food to UE Local 401, has been organizing for the Farmers Union for several years in the Schenectady region.

Transportation For Field Day

Hans Grell's Grove, where the 301 field day will be held Sunday, is at 2390 Albany St., just above McNearney hall park.

The Albany St. bus No. 2 or No. 11 passes in front of the grove every 40 minutes. A Woodlawn bus No. 4, goes within a block of the grove every 20 minutes.

Jump in Unemployment

The number of unemployed registered with the Schenectady unemployment insurance office shot up to 2,647 as of June 3, in contrast to 2,268 as of May 27. This increase of 378 took place before the start of the new benefit year, at a time when the jobless rolls are usually lower because of the number of workers who have exhausted their benefits for the year.

nigan, Stephen A. Watts, and Frank Fiorillo.

J. P. Brauneisen abstained. The following members were absent, Sam Scott, Stanley Bishop, Leo Jandreau and Robert Phillips.

301 Stops Piece Work Move in Aeronautics

A move by supervision in Aeronautics to place a milling machine group on piece work was stopped last week through union grievance action. The group has been on day work. They objected to piece work at a time when operators had been laid off. Shop Steward Frank LaMalfa took up the grievance.

Frank Schaff of the Works Manager's office admitted that piece work would probably mean a further reduction of the force, and that this was an inopportune time for the move. He agreed to notify the shop steward and the union office in advance if the piece work plan is taken up again, so it can be discussed.

Pay Increased

The rate of two Class A assemblers in Building 46 was increased from \$1.62 to \$1.67½ an hour last week through efforts of Shop Steward Robert Lee. Lee pointed out to the foreman that both men had been at the \$1.62 rate for over a year though other workers were receiving higher pay for the same kind of work.