

Meet the Latest Shop Stewards Committee Prepares Field Day Program

Lucy Swatling, left, of Bldg. 53 and Irene Ransom, right, Bldg. 23 G. O., took the oath of office May 7 as shop stewards. Below, Chief Shop Steward Bill Mastriani swearing in Royal Irish, Bldg. 273; Miss Swatling, 53; Larry Gebro, 53; Robert Leonard, 93; Alfred Collette, 10; F. M. Gee, 107; C. J. Di Girolamo, 69; Peter Nowicki, 40; Ferdinanc Ciccone, 73A; S. R. Kemp, 10, and N. E. Masur, 39.



Plans for the annual Field Day of Local 301 are a bit behind time this year because of shortages of supplies and equipment.

Foster Campbell, chairman of the Activities Committee of the union, said he will announce the date and place soon. Following the tradition of other years, the affair will start at 11 a.m. and run until midnight.

Chairman Campbell also said that "any day now" he may reveal what the big gate prize will be. He was very mysterious about it.

"It's only because the committee was far-sighted enough to start its plans many months ago that we'll be able to have this top prize," he declared.

The Activities Committee meets at 8 p.m. every Monday in the Union Hall. Anyone interested in joining the committee is invited to drop in. Campbell said, or to contact him between Mondays.

Ward Groups to Hear Union PAC Director

Clifford T. McAvoy, national political action director for UE, will speak at PAC meetings in Schenectady tonight (Thursday, May 16) and tomorrow night. He will speak at four ward headquarters of the Independent Citizens Committee.

Here is the time-table.

Tonight, 9th Ward, 8 p.m., at 1096 Forest Rd.

Tomorrow night, 10th Ward, 7:30 p.m. at 2337 Turner Ave. Joint 7th and 13th Wards, 8 p.m., at 543 Schenectady Street.

McAvoy will discuss the program of the national CIO Political Action Committee and the way local unions can aid it. He spoke in Schenectady this winter at a Local 301 strike rally at the Armory when he was UE Washington representative.

ABC'S OF PAC

The CIO Political Action Committee has urged all local unions in Schenectady to hasten the "breakdown" of their membership lists into wards and election districts.

Ward and election guides, showing what streets are in each district, can be obtained at the office of Local 301.



Don't Miss It! What?

THE UNION BROADCAST of course. Local 301 is on the air at 7:15 p. m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday over Station WSNY. 1240 on your dial.

GE Gives Date, Rate of Bonus

The GE bonus or profit-sharing for 1945 will be paid June 6.

Anyone with over five years service as of Jan. 1, 1946 will receive 1.8 per cent of his earnings for 1945.

Over three years and less than five years, 1.2.

Over one year and less than three years .6 per cent.

Electrical Union News

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Field Day Prize To Be 1947 Car

The grand prize to be given away at the annual field day of Local 301, June 30, at Pete and Sally's Grove, Albany St., will be a 1947 Studebaker. There also will be five table radios as prizes.

Foster T. Campbell, chairman of the Activities Committee in charge of the

outing, has announced another major attraction, the selection of a Queen of the Field Day.



Foster Campbell

The Queen will be elected on the basis of the number of tickets sold in her name. Every section is to name its own candidate for queen. Every ticket sold in her name will give a girl 50

points toward her final score. The girl with the highest score will get a \$100 war bond and the title of queen.

Campbell said the "runner-up queen" will receive a \$50 war bond and the next four in line will receive \$25 bonds. The names of candidates for queen should be turned in as soon as possible to Board members or to the union office.

Books of tickets are to be distributed by committeemen. The tickets are 50 cents each.

The field day will start at 10 a.m. and end at midnight. Entertainment and sports are planned and there are facilities for picnics. Dancing will start at 8 p.m.

(Editor's note): Please turn in pictures of the queen candidates as soon as possible to use in the Electrical Union News.

Jandreau Returns

Leo Jandreau, Local 301 business agent, has returned from Canada where he spent several days on a speaking tour of GE locals for the international UE office.

Union Calendar

Thursday, May 23—Shop meeting of 98-A under board member John Polak.

Meeting of Capital District CIO Council.

Tuesday, May 28—Shop meeting under board member Frank Emspak.

Joint Veterans Committees meeting.

Friday, May 31—Shop meeting under board member John Boyle.

PAC Director Spurs Action Of Ward Clubs

Formation of PAC ward clubs in Schenectady shows that at last union members have learned that political action must start at the roots, in election districts and wards, Clifford McAvoy, national PAC director of UE, told ward meetings last week.

"The Republicans and Democrats learned that secret long ago," he said. "Passing all the resolutions in the world won't take the place of ringing doorbells, talking to your neighbors on political issues and making sure they get out to register and to vote."

McAvoy declared the newspapers tried to picture PAC as a mysterious organization which Sidney Hillman runs from Washington by pressing a button and saying "Defeat this Congressman," or "Support that one."

That's absolute "bunk," McAvoy pointed out.

"The union members and other voters in each locality make their own decisions."

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Clifford McAvoy

Junior G-Man Works For GE

One of the foremen in Building 40 must have taken a Junior G-Man course, to judge from the experience of John Farhart, a worker in that building.

Farhart went to the foreman on a Monday, recently, to report it was necessary to have time off to take his wife to a physician in Albany. He left her in Albany and Wednesday he informed the foreman he'd have to knock off work at noon in order to bring his wife home.

The foreman insisted that Farhart tell him the address he was going to, the people he would see and their telephone numbers.

He made it very clear to Farhart that he was going to check up on him. And as additional proof of his Junior G-Man training, the foreman told Farhart that he had one of his men follow Farhart out of the plant Monday to make sure where he went.

The union will take up the matter with management.

TUNE IN

LOCAL 301 BROADCAST
Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:15 p.m. over WSNY.
1240 on your dial.

Special Invitation For Homeless Vets

A meeting of special interest to veterans who haven't yet found homes will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 28, at CIO Hall.

It has been called by the joint veterans committees of Local 301, the Steel Workers at ALCO and of Local 128, Plumbers and Steamfitters, AFL.

The meeting will be devoted to discussion of veterans' housing problems and to working out a program of local action.

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Union Speaker Repeats FDR's Bill of Rights

William Turnbull, first president of Local 301, who took part this week with Milo Lathrop in a Local 301 radio broadcast, used the occasion to remind the voters of Schenectady of the Economic Bill of Rights which the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt set forth over two years ago.

The eight-point program was presented by FDR in his message to Congress Jan. 11, 1944. It included:

The right to a useful and remunerative job in the industries, or shops or farms or mines of the nation.

The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation.

The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living.

The right of every businessman, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home and abroad.

The right of every family to a decent home.

The right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health.

The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident and unemployment.

The right to a good education.

"That's FDR's Economic Bill of Rights," Turnbull said.

"It is already the program of every liberal, forward looking and progressive group in the country, including church people, professionals and many others. It is the program of the CIO". Turnbull outlined the big job ahead of CIO-PAC in cooperation with the National Citizens Political Action Committee, consisting of non-union people, and the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions.

Union Applications Reach High Figure

A total of 633 applications submitted to the business office for the June check-off is the highest figure reported in a long time.

The applications cover new members and reinstatements. Mike Tedisco, Board member, of Bldg. 17 handed in more than 50 of the reinstatements.

In addition to reporting the good news on application figures, the union business office issued a request that committeemen be sure the applications of all veterans are marked "veterans." "veterans."

Local 301 doesn't charge any initiation fee for veterans. Every month it makes refunds of initiation fees that have been deducted by mistake from veterans' pay. If the applications were marked "veterans" the records would be kept straight from the start.

And speaking of applications, the union office has one more request. Be sure the check number is on every application.

REGISTER IN JUNE

Don't forget that starting June 1 Schenectady voters can register till Oct. 1 for the November elections by going to the Board of Elections at the Schenectady County Court House.

Want to Smoke? Then Obey Rules

It has been called to the attention of the Local 301 office that some members are not living up to the agreement between the company and the union concerning smoking in restricted areas.

The union office has issued a warning that continued carelessness about smoking will result in the State Labor Department revoking the smoking permit.

"The way to maintain our rights is to observe the rules," the union office said.

PAC Director Spurs Action

(Continued from Page 1)

cision on the basis of the records of office-holders and the stand different candidates take. You people are PAC. Meetings like this are PAC."

McAvoy said that after the UE won the General Electric strike, GE and other corporations succeeded through their Washington lobbyists in getting price ceilings lifted more than enough to offset the money they had to pay out in wage increases.

He described the lavish wining and dining methods of the manufacturers' lobby which he watched while he was UE legislative representative at the nation's capitol.

Representatives of GE and other great corporations are working day and night to destroy price control, to weaken labor and to act against the interests of the overwhelming majority of the people of the country, he told the ward groups.

"If OPA is killed the cost of living will shoot up at least 50 per cent. There's no doubt about it."

McAvoy also warned that powerful forces are trying to bring on a third World War.

"Enough groups like these Schenectady PAC clubs can stop the drive against labor, the drive toward inflation, the drive toward war," he declared. "But it will take a tremendous amount of effort and a tremendous number of people. And there's no time to lose."

Bernard W. Kearney of Gloversville, who represents Schenectady in Congress, has one of the worst records in Washington, McAvoy declared.

McAvoy addressed meetings of the 9th Ward, the 10th Ward and the joint 7th and 19th Ward clubs.

New Shop Stewards To Take Oath Soon

The next group of new committeemen to be sworn in will include:

Joseph Giannetti Bldg. 24
John Fava Bldg. 69
Michael Negro Bldg. 53
Earl G. Barnhart Bldg. 53
John Pasquerella Bldg. 285
Michael Whittle Bldg. 273

Among the committeemen who recently took the oath of office was Elmer Daley, Bldg. 285.



Mike Tedisco

They Have to Sit Up Nights To Think Up Tricks Like This

Here is an entry for the meanest trick of the year contest.

A woman worker who was employed at the GE plant for four and a half years was laid off. After she had been out a week she was called back and was offered a job in Building 14, winding tape around coils.

Later she was sent to Building 29 where she was given work with mica and varnish which she could not do because the odor of the varnish made her violently ill.

The interviewer at Building 1 put it on the record that the woman had refused work offered and had resigned.

According to the Local 301 office, which has taken up the case with management as a grievance, the interviewer couldn't help knowing that the woman would be disqualified for unemployment insurance if the record said she quit voluntarily.

Contract Brings New UE Victory

A contract with the General Cable Co., signed by the national UE, provides a general pay increase of 18½ cents an hour, six paid holidays and the union shop and converts all piece work into day work on the basis of average earnings.

A competitor of GE, General Cable has a plant at Rome, N. Y. The contract was described at the recent District 3 UE conference as one of the best union contracts signed anywhere in the country this year.

Aid District Work

Bill Mastriani, chief shop steward of Local 301, will spend tomorrow in Utica helping with wage negotiations at the GE Tube Plant. After winning an election recently, UE is now the bargaining agent there.

Mastriani and Sadie Iovinella of the Local 301 staff were speakers this week at an organizing meeting of workers at the General Battery Drive Plant at Gloversville.

Lynn Increases Dues

The UE local at the Lynn GE plant has voted to raise its dues to \$1.50 a month.

What, Five Minutes Off? You'll Lose a Week's Pay

Take five minutes off to powder your nose and lose a week's pay.

That's the policy GE now applies to women workers, it seems.

Thirty girls were notified recently they would be laid-off for a week to discipline them for leaving their machines five minutes before quitting time to wash up.

On receiving this report from a UE Board member, the union office made a complaint to management at once. The company hasn't answered yet.

IT'S A BARGAIN, BETTER BUY IT

Union members may buy "The Truth About Unions," a book by Leo Huberman, at the Local 301 headquarters for 60 cents a copy. The regular price is a dollar.

Philip Murray, CIO president, has urged all union members to read it. He said:

"Leo Huberman has performed an invaluable service to the labor movement. His book is a simple, clear account of the reason for unions, their structure, their importance in our society. It should be read by every worker in the United States."

Planning News Sheet for Office Workers



These members of the Office Workers Organizing Committee are working on the first issue of "Union Digest", a paper to be distributed to the white collar workers at GE soon. Left to right, Tom Herkenham, John Blewett, Hilred Blewett, Bill Galusha and George Katz.

Committee Announces Office Workers' Paper Is Due This Weekend

The Office Workers Organizing Committee plans to mail out its news sheet, Union Digest, tomorrow or over the weekend. Most of the work on the paper has been done by Bill Galusha, chairman of the publicity committee, and George Bason.

Douglas Caissi, a new member of the organizing committee, reported at its last meeting that considerable progress has been made in his section.

"I think the white collar workers are beginning to realize the need for organization," he said.

Jerry Steinberg, field organizer, spoke on the press of negotiations with the GE as they affect salaried employees.

Need Early Reports On Lay-off Notices

The Local 301 business office has a grievance of its own concerning last-minute requests to check on removals.

As soon as a worker receives notice of lay-off his committeeman should contact the business office immediately if there is any doubt about the removal being proper.

According to the business office, however, many committeemen ask the business agents to check a removal on the last day of the worker's employment. That doesn't give the union business office or the company much chance to get the facts.