

MEN, WHAT WE LACK IN MANPOWER WE MUST MAKE UP IN HORSEPOWER...FROM NOW ON YOU WILL WORK LIKE HORSES!

Campbell Pledges Aid in UE Fight for Victims of Silicosis

Three UE-sponsored bills to improve the workmen's compensation act reached the State Senate this week and were referred to the Labor and Industry committee for action.

Although all 3 were introduced by upstate Republicans, they were assured the support of the Democratic minority.

One of the most important of the measures, that to provide payment for partial disability due to silicosis, which was introduced as Senate Bill 964, was promised active backing by Schenectady Sen. Thomas Campbell. Sen. Campbell pledged to UE Legislative Representative Clifford McAvoys that he would work for this measure. Several other GOP legislators, including the bill's sponsor, Dutton Peterson of Elmira, are also campaigning for the measure which would end the unjust situation under which silicosis victims receive no compensation unless they "have one foot in the grave."

A second key bill—to increase maximum compensation to injured workers from \$32 to \$40 a week, and minimum compensation from \$12 to \$25 a week, was introduced by GOP Sen. Stanley Bauer of Buffalo, as was a measure to provide payment for lost time incurred at compensation hearings and medical examinations. These two bills were labeled S1199 and S1200 respectively.

All 3 proposals were referred to the Labor and Industry committee which is chaired by Sen. Ernest

Hatfield. In order to increase the chances of passage for these 3 laws, Local 301 members are urged to write or wire to Sen. Hatfield and urge him to back the bills, S964, S1199 and S1200.

Question and Answer Corner

Every day in the shops, stewards and other active union members are approached by some of their fellow workers and asked questions about our union, UE. Some of these questions keep popping up over and over again. For this reason, the EU News has decided to launch this new feature in which some of the most common inquiries are put down, together with what we feel are honest and complete replies.

Question: How can UE end the red-baiting against it, once and for all?

Answer: By becoming a company union, devoted to serving the interests of the employers and not of its membership. This might temporarily ease the red-baiting attacks of the big corporations and their agents in the government, trade union movement and press.

Plan 4 Weeks of Stewards' Classes Beginning Feb. 24

In a move designed to strengthen the UE Local 301 grievance machinery, the union will conduct a series of shop stewards' classes beginning on Feb. 24. All stewards will be expected to attend one class during the following 4 weeks, with each session held at the union hall.

The classes will discuss every phase of the stewards' jobs with special emphasis on processing of grievances. Business Agent Leo Jandreau and his assistants will conduct the discussions.

The committee men and women will be asked to come to a class together with all other stewards under their board members. In this way, particular problems of each division will get special attention.

Approval of the schedule of classes was given by the executive board Monday night. It was recalled that last year the classes proved highly successful in introducing new stewards to their jobs and in strengthening the work of old stewards.

In order to prepare the stewards for the classes, the union office will mail each of them a special discussion outline. It is expected that these outlines will enable many union representatives to come to the classes armed with questions on problems which particularly concern their groups.

Classes for 1st and 3rd shift stewards will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The 2nd shift stewards will gather at 1:00 p.m.

The complete schedule of classes:
Tuesday, Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m.—Stewards under Charles Scott,

Sadie Iovinella and Vincent Palazke.

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m.—Frank D'Amico, Percy Everett and James De Masseo.

Thursday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m.—George Agius, Sidney Friedlander and Joseph Whitbeck.

Tuesday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.—Fay Hildreth and Henry Kaminski.

Wednesday, March 4, 7:30 p.m.—Lloyd Perue and Edward LaBombard.

Thursday, March 5, 7:30 p.m.—Elroy Marine and Allen Townsend.

Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 p.m.—Miles Moon and Vincent DiLorenzo.

Wednesday, March 11, 1:00 p.m.—All second shift stewards except for Turbine.

Wednesday, March 11, 7:30 p.m.—Manuel Fernandez, Webster Bathrick and Paul Rosa.

Thursday, March 12, 7:30 p.m.—Paul Landolfo, Adam Griffith, Albert Pepicelli and Howard McClean.

Tuesday, March 17, 1:00 p.m.—Turbine 2nd shift stewards.

Tuesday, March 17, 7:30 p.m.—Anthony Villano and William Stewart.

Wednesday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.—Bill Linka and Anders Christensen.

Thursday, March 19, 7:30 p.m.—Larry Gebro.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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Friday, February 20, 1953



New York — A plan to wipe out discrimination in pay against women workers in the Sylvania chain has been presented to management by UE. The union program calls for the abolition of the artificial differences in rating, which the corporation uses to keep the pay of women workers down.

Berkeley, Calif. — A 5c hourly general wage increase, improvements in the night differentials and other contract benefits have been won by the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union after 8 months of striking against the Colgate-Palmolive-Peet plant here. The settlement is expected to mean withdrawal of the company's big Taft-Hartley damage suit against the independent union.

Hamilton, Ontario — UE Local 520 has won wage increases ranging from 12c to 26c an hour for workers at the Boston Insulated Wire and Cable Co. Among the many contract improvements negotiated is a 3rd week's vacation for workers with 15 years of service.

Miami Beach — An organizing drive aimed at unionizing 150,000 taxi drivers across the country has been launched by the AFL teamsters. The drive was approved by the union's executive board last week.

Louisville, Ky. — Another attempt by the International Harvester Co. to frame one of the most active leaders of the recent UE strike collapsed when a criminal court jury freed UE Local 236 member Thomas Pearl of charges of attempted murder. The case against Pearl, a disabled World War II veteran, fell apart though the company hired a special prosecutor in its efforts to frame the militant unionist.

New York — The CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers has demanded a 15c hourly wage increase for 250,000 men's clothing, shirt and cotton garment workers, most of whom have not had a wage boost since 1950.



RE-ELECTED. Fred Pacelli, James Cognetta and Leo Jandreau (pictured above) were re-elected Monday as UE Local 301 representatives on the union's GE conference board. Full story on page 3.

Local 301 Votes Approval Of UE Proposals to GE

Local 301's membership voted Monday to approve the 1953 set of demands on the company drafted by the UE-GE conference board, which groups together UE locals throughout the GE chain.

Approval of the demands by the big Schenectady local helped to clear the way for presentation of several of the proposals to the company for economic reopening negotiations. This action is expected to be taken within the next few days.

Among the union demands slated for early discussion are those for a substantial wage increase, for payment of Saturday holidays, 2 of which are coming up within the next few months, and for an end to all forms of pay discrimination.

In line with this last proposal, the union is seeking special pay increases for women workers, for day workers and for skilled craftsmen. It also wants elimination of geographical differentials. This demand is regarded as particularly important this year because of GE's big building program in low-wage areas of the South. One GE northern shop, in Trenton, N. J., has already been shut down completely, throwing 1,100 workers out of jobs, and many others have imposed mass layoffs as a result of work being moved to Louisville and

Stewards Begin School Tuesday

UE Local 301 will launch its annual series of shop stewards' classes this coming Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. The classes will continue for the next 4 weeks, 3 evenings a week, with special afternoon sessions for 2nd shift committeemen and women.

First stewards to take part in the refresher courses on contract enforcement and grievance procedure will be those working with Executive Board Members Charles Scott, Sadie Iovinella and Vincent Palazke. They will gather Tuesday. On Wednesday, stewards under Frank D'Amico, Percy Everett and James De Masseo will "go to school," and on Thursday a class will be held for the shop representatives under George Agius, Sidney Friedlander and Joseph Whitbeck. All of this week's sessions are slated to get underway at 7:30 p.m.

The stewards' classes are designed to strengthen the local grievance machinery, to acquaint new stewards with their duties and to refresh veteran stewards on their key roles in the union.

Local leaders are encouraged by the possibility of close to 100% attendance at the classes because of the high rate of participation in the 2 monthly stewards' meetings already held in 1953.

Giveaway Tix Inspire Buying Spree

UE Local 301 members began a buying spree this week as tickets for the union's giveaway program went on sale in the Schenectady works.

The program will be climaxed by a drawing for 6 valuable prizes at the March 16 membership meeting. Tickets are priced at 3 for only 25c. Proceeds are to go to help finance the ambitious 1953 schedule of social events planned by the activities committee.

Topping the prize list is a \$100 complete Easter clothing outfit for either a man or woman. Other prizes in order are:

A \$75 3-piece luggage set; a \$50 case of assorted liquor; a \$37.50 electric roaster; a \$25 machinist's tool box; and a \$12.50 Shakespearean fishing reel.

In addition \$5 will be given each

man or woman who sells one of the winning tickets.

The first social event to benefit from the giveaway program proceeds will be a dance to celebrate 20 years of union progress in Schenectady. The Electric City Employees' Industrial Union, which was later to become UE Local 301, was formed in 1933. The dance celebrating the anniversary is slated for this spring.

Rounding out the spring and early summer activities schedule will be the annual field day and a baseball booster night at Schenectady Stadium. Both events were big successes in 1952.

A clambake will be the main social event of the fall season, while the winter program will, of course, feature the union's Christmas parties.

Pressure on Ward Leaders Can Help Compensation Bills

Pressure by union members on Republican ward committeemen in Schenectady was urged by the Local 301 leadership as a means of improving the chances of passage for 3 UE-sponsored bills to improve New York State's compensation laws.

The 3 measures have all been introduced in the State Senate. Bill S964, which would provide for the first time for partial disability payments for silicosis victims, is sponsored by Sen. Dutton Peterson, an Elmira Republican.

Schenectady's member of the Senate, Thomas Campbell, has promised to work for the release of this bill from the Senate labor and industry committee, where it is now being considered.

Campbell has also promised support for 2 other union-backed bills, S1199, which would increase maximum disability benefits from \$32 a week to \$40 a week, and S1200, which would provide payments for time lost due to compensation hearings and medical examinations.

However, the Schenectady senator's support has been pledged only in case the bills come out of committee. Since most legislative bills die in committee, it is very important that Campbell be urged to work actively for bringing the measures up to a vote.

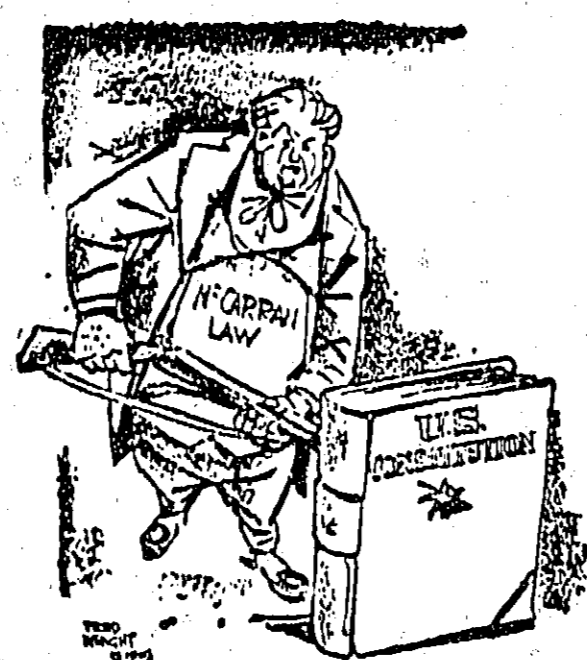
Union members should contact Campbell, both directly and through

the GOP ward committeemen, to persuade him to act on behalf of the injured workers of New York. Communications can also be sent to other legislators, particularly Sen. Ernest Hatfield, chairman of the Senate labor and industry committee, in which the measures are being considered.

Striking Negroes Defy KKK Terror

More than 1,000 striking Negro fishermen defied Ku Klux Klan terror threats last week to stage a history-making demonstration of union militancy in the South. The demonstration of members of Local 700 of the International Fur and Leather Workers union took place in Reedville, Va.

The demonstrators are among 5,000 menhaden fishermen who have been on strike to win decent wages and working conditions for months. The strike of Negro workers backed by strong support from white union brothers and sisters, has aroused the anger of the Klan and other white supremacist organizations.



Measure To Cut Taxes Makes House Progress

A small tax cut for the average worker loomed as a possibility this week as the House ways and means committee in Washington voted 21 to 4 to approve a plan calling for a 5 1/2% cut in the taxes on the 1953 personal incomes of most people.

The tax cut was proposed by Congressman Daniel Reed, a New York Republican, who frankly admitted that his constituents were up in arms about the idea of elimination of the excess profits taxes on corporations, and that they were demanding personal income levy reductions. Reed-hails from Jamestown, N. Y., one of the most important UE centers in the state. The union has been campaigning for real tax cuts for the working people.

Local Backs Campaign For Conservation Law

UE Local 301 will throw its full weight behind the drive to pass the Ostrander amendment to the State constitution. This amendment would safeguard public fishing and game areas, particularly those in the Adirondacks, from private power company grabs.

Support for the Ostrander amendment was voted by the union several months ago after a representative of the Schenectady County Conservation Council had explained that the amendment would make it impossible for the State to give up public lands to power companies except by a popular referendum vote.

Tentative plans in the union's drive to preserve adequate recreational facilities for the people of the area call for the sending of the full 5-member legislative sub-committee to Albany on Wednesday, March 4. That's the day on which the legislature will conduct public hearings on the Ostrander measure.

New Contracts Out

Copies of the new UE-GE contracts have been distributed by executive board members to all shop stewards. These new contract books are essential to stewards in their everyday work of processing grievances.

union demands reclassification and 2-step increase for this worker.

Bldg. 69: Job 1886716-1, arm operation 4, consisting of 5 pieces, was priced at \$4.00. In December each of the pieces had a \$1.25 price plus 45c for setup (total—\$6.70). The union demands restoration of price cut.

Group under Foreman Plichta has asked equal distribution of all jobs issued from work rack. Instead the foreman has shown marked partiality to certain individuals. The union demands an immediate end to this practice and an equal distribution of all work.

Bldg. 109: An agreement provides that all operators should receive full job rate immediately upon completing 9-month breaking in period. The union demands retroactive rate adjustment for Ernest Martin based on this agreement.

Bldg. 269: A. Madonna and A. Ferguson suffered a loss in earnings when their jobs were transferred to 2nd shift. The operators have been told that they would have to accept break-in pay for several weeks while familiarizing themselves with other tube of union demands that supervisors stop penalizing these workers for conditions over which they had no control.

Bldg. 273: J. Schultz and J. Clark have been transferred from 3rd to 2nd shift. Since the transfer was not at their request, the union demands that they be paid change-of-shift premiums.

Local Reaches 5,000 Mark In McCarran Repeal Drive

Close to 5,000 Local 301 members had put their names down on petitions demanding repeal of the vicious McCarran-Walter immigration law by the beginning of this week. The

count was made right after Monday's membership meeting. Since then many new signatures have come into the union office.

The petitions are addressed to Congressman Bernard W. Kearney and to U. S. Senators Herbert Lehman and Irving Ives. They demand repeal of the law because it is racist, anti-labor and completely undemocratic.

Passage of the McCarran-Walter law has aroused a storm of protest, from all over the country. Religious leaders of all denominations, nationality groups and organized labor have spearheaded the fight for repeal.

Among the worst features of the law is its discrimination against minority groups, including Italians, Negroes, Jews, Asians, Southern Europeans and Eastern Europeans. The law also gives the politicians the power to take away the citizenship from all naturalized Americans on the slightest possible pretext.

As a result, the big corporations can use their agents in the government to get rid of active

trade unionists who happen to be foreign born. UE already has bitter experience with the act in the attempt to denaturalize and deport Director of Organization James Matles. This action is possible under the McCarran-Walter act even though Matles has spent



ON THE JOB. Four new shop stewards took the oath of office at the 301 membership meeting on Monday, pledging to uphold the union and to work in the interests of the men and women they represent. Pictured on the right is Warren West, Bldg. 40B, who took the oath at the 2nd shift session. Above is the trio that was sworn in at the 1st and 3rd shift gathering — Virgie Basile, 89; Ethel Collins, 89; and Thomas Welsh, 60.

Aim UE Unity Call at Rank and File

Rank and file members of other unions representing General Electric workers will receive UE leaflets telling how all of the major contract benefits GE workers now enjoy were won before the Carey-led split in 1949.

These leaflets will be distributed at shop gates by the union in accordance with a unity resolution adopted early this month by the UE-GE conference board. This resolution emphasized the importance of united action in any negotiations with the company. It urged all union members, regardless of affiliation, to support a program based on unity against the company and for the workers.

Copies of the resolution will also be sent to all of the 80 unions which represent GE workers. The move made by the conference board was in accordance with national UE policy of seeking to gain the most for its members, and for all workers in the industry, by massing the greatest possible strength in negotiations with the employers.

Even if some union leaders refuse to regard the welfare of their memberships highly enough to agree to a united program of action, UE will attempt to show rank-and-filers the importance of such unity.

Cognetta, Jandreau and Pacelli Re-Elected As 301 Members of UE-GE Conference Board

James Cognetta, Leo Jandreau and Fred Pacelli were re-elected as the local's delegates to the UE-GE conference board at the membership meeting Monday. All 3 have served on the board, which groups together UE locals throughout the GE chain, in the past year.

Building 269 Groups Meet To Protest

Close to 250 workers, angered by company attempts to impose sub-standard conditions in the Tube Division, Building 269, gathered at union hall last week to map a drive to clean up all contract violations in their working area.

The session produced a demand for a meeting with the company on such important violations as unsafe working conditions, rates below contract standards, improper and vague classifications, over-staffing resulting in excessive lost time and speedup. Management has agreed to the meeting.

Labor Backs Morse

Oregon labor was fighting this week to beat down a Republican gangup on Sen. Wayne Morse, the generally pro-labor lawmaker who bolted the GOP to support Adlai Stevenson in the presidential election.

GOP state legislators were busy trying to push through a bill which would prevent Morse from running for re-election as an independent, his present status. CIO, AFL and independent unions pledged support for Morse in his fight for political life.

OK 2 LL Entries

Local membership voted Monday to approve the entry of two UE-sponsored baseball teams in Schenectady Little Leagues. One club will compete in the Bellevue league, while the 2nd will be entered in the Northside loop.

Pacelli, Building 60, was elected

as a representative of the 2nd shift. He was chosen over two opponents in a vote at the afternoon session of the night workers. Also nominated for the job were Rudy Rissland and Fred Shuffelt, both of 273. Pacelli is also 2nd shift board member-at-large.

The evening voting for two representatives of the 1st and 3rd shifts saw five candidates put in nomination. Jandreau and Cognetta, 52, were chosen, with the local business agent receiving votes on all but two of the ballots cast.

The other nominees were Howard McLean, Raetrack; John Smialek, 273; and James De Massco, 49.

As a result of the elections, the local will have the same representation on the conference board as it had at the beginning of this year when the present demands on the company were drafted. The vote also virtually guarantees that Jandreau will continue as a member of the UE-GE negotiating committee which meets with management.

The conference board is one of the most important bodies of the national union. It is entrusted with coordinating the efforts of all locals in the General Electric chain throughout the year. Contract negotiations, reopening talks and top level grievances all fall under the jurisdiction of the board, as do major drives conducted by the national union in GE shops.



Thousands of grievances are handled by UE Local 301 each year as 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.

Bldg. 10: Richard Flinton recently approached his foreman to request assignment to an open job with a higher classification than his present common labor rating. However, the job was given to another worker with less seniority than Flinton. The Union demands that supervision stop discriminating against this worker and give him the upgrade to which he is entitled.

Bldg. 16: Payment of 4 hours for tool trouble to Clayton Leffingwell is demanded. The trouble had been reported to the foreman and to the methods man, and was in no way the responsibility of the worker.

Bldg. 17: Joseph W. Celebucki is classified as a combination grinder, rated at \$2.00 an hour. He has not had a rate adjustment for the past year, although he has been entitled to one. A retroactive 1-step increase is demanded.

Bldg. 19: L. Bossard had requested a return to his old punch press job in 19 as soon as there was ample work. The union now demands he be returned to this job.

Bldg. 40: N. Brown and R. Swan are classified as carbonyl grinders with a \$1.75 1/2 rate. The work they are performing justifies a higher classification and rate. The union demands they be upgraded to B intermediate with proper rate adjustment.

Bldg. 46: Bracket job 747276-2, profile operation, has on occasion been rated as both B and A because of close tolerance requirements. Recently, the operator, Charles H. Ives, requested a time study on 3 lots which wage rate refused to grant. Foreman Sprung, instead, insists on paying extra work for the difference in price. The union demands a normal time study to enable operator to maintain satisfactory earnings and to establish a fair price.

Bldg. 49: Group of boring mill operators demand investigation to correct inefficient and inconsistent pricing methods. Much work is not priced, and the lack of a uniform method results in constant bickering and loss of earnings, as in cases where foreman promises A.E.R., and later says that he couldn't get approval, and that operator would have to accept day work. In addition the lack of planning or methods sheets enables foremen to tell operators that inadequate prices are due to their

errors in using wrong speeds and feeds.

Although boring mill group under Foreman Conley does not have sufficient work to assure adequate earnings, supervision continues to add new operators. The union demands an end to this practice.

Bldg. 53: Class A machinists' group now perform work of complicated nature to close dimensions and tolerances. Their classification also calls for building of files and fixtures. This is B tool making work and the union demands proper reclassification and rate adjustment.

Bldg. 60: Harold Horton is classified as a G inspector, with a \$1.79 1/2 rate, although he is performing work which is classified as E with a \$1.01 rate in 28. The

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