

LOCAL 301 NEWS

101E-AFL-CIO

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CAPITAL DISTRICT EMPLOYMENT REPORT

According to the recent report covering the Capital District from the Division of Employment of the New York State Department of Labor, manufacturing employment in May 1962, estimated at 62,700, showed no significant change from the previous month's report covering April.

Non-manufacturing employment, estimated at approximately 160,200, in May 1962, was up 1400 over the previous month of April.

Unemployment in May was estimated at 9,700.

The civilian work force including agricultural, professional, etc. is estimated at 262,100 for May 1962, which is 3,000 less than a year ago when the work force was estimated to be 265,000.

The Capital District Report includes Albany, Schenectady, Troy and Saratoga. The employment figures also include approximately 10,000 commuters living outside this labor market area.

AIR CONDITIONED AUDITORIUM

Estimates on air conditioning Local 301's Auditorium are being obtained for consideration of the Executive Board and the membership.

During the hot days this past month, many members have raised the question after membership meetings as to the possibility of air conditioning the building. Moreover, the Union has lost some rentals of the Hall in preference to other places that have air conditioning. Now that our mortgage has been paid, the pressure from our members has been rising for this improvement.

The officers are planning to have some estimates for the Executive Board to consider at their regular monthly meeting on Monday, July 9th. If the Board favorably considers the proposition, it will be submitted to the members at the membership meeting on July 16th.

COPE CAMPAIGN

The 1962 COPE Drive for \$1.00 per member is progressing well as we go to press and the reports indicate that the drive this year will be more successful than any other previous COPE Drive.

Local 301 did not start their Drive until June, which was late as compared with other AFL-CIO local unions who held their drives in May of this year.

The reason Local 301 got off to a late start was due to the fact that several campaigns for funds were in progress, such as the Boys Club and the T.V. Program on Medicare. Therefore, the COPE Drive was postponed.

While there has been a considerable amount of COPE money already turned in, many of the Shop Stewards have not made complete returns as yet.

There have been more COPE buttons worn by Local 301 members in the campaign this year than in any other previous one. The reason for this is because John Shambo, President of Local 301, has received the Democratic endorsement for State Assemblyman and many of our members have a special interest this year to support liberal candidates, such as Shambo for political office.

The COPE Drive will end this week and all returns must be in the Union Office by Monday, July 9th.

We are requesting that each Board Member be prepared to make a final report at the Executive Board meeting Monday evening.

NOTICE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, July 9th, 7:30 p.m.
Officers will meet at 6 p.m.

Union Headquarters
121 Erie Blvd.

KNOLLS GRIEVANCE GAINS
RATE INCREASE

Recently Shop Steward Fagan of the Knolls Research Lab., filed a case requesting an increase for the "Service Equipment Operators". After an unsatisfactory answer from the foreman, Board Member Korszun requested that Union Headquarters send this grievance to the second step.

At a second step meeting with the Company, it was pointed out by Union negotiators that new and more complicated duties had been added to this classification, making it worth more money.

At this point, management agreed to investigate further, based on the above facts.

A short time later, we were informed that the Company would raise the rate on this job from R-17 to R-18. This offer was accepted by the Union.

Negotiating for the Union were Messrs. Townsend, Korszun and Fagan.

IUE LOCAL GOLF LEAGUE

The Local 301 Golf League will have its Mid-Season Tournament on Sunday, July 8th, at the "Top-of-The-World" Golf Course at Lake George. Tee-off time is 9:00 a.m.

The League is composed of 20 members divided up into two divisions separating the low and high handicappers.

Douglas De Forge is leading the Red Division of low handicappers with 20½ points at the end of the mid-season, while Dominick Restifo leads the Blue Division of "hackers" with 18 points.

The League plays on Fridays after work at the Schenectady Municipal Golf Course.

The final tournament at the end of the season will be held at the "Concord" in the Catskills on Saturday and Sunday, August 25th and 26th.

John Wager and Bill Christman, officers of the IUE Local 301 Golf League, wish to remind the players who are not up-to-date in their dues that half of the money needed for the year-end tournament is due and should be paid up by Friday, July 6th.

NOTICE

Summer Forum - The First Unitarian Society of Schenectady

Wednesday, July 11th, 8:00 p.m.
1221 Wendell Avenue, Schenectady

SPEAKER:- Dr. Norman Mercer, Assoc. Professor of Economics at Union College.

SUBJECT:- The Causes and Responsibilities for Technological Unemployment

ADMISSION FREE

trying to get the Turbine management to scrap the "Pennywise and Pound Foolish" plan which has been expensive both to the Company and the employees since it started.

The following Union Representatives have been engaged in the negotiations: Board Members McCabe and Clark; Shop Stewards Daszewski, Lawrence, Trzeciak, Tessitore, Maietta, Fura and Condon; Team was headed by Assistant Business Agent Vitallo.

PUNCH CARD SYSTEM A WHITE ELEPHANT!

The Punch Card System in Steam Turbine which was instituted over a year ago has proved as helpful as a flat tire, as was predicted by the Union Representatives when it started.

The System, designed for more efficiency in accumulating tools and materials for jobs, works to some extent if the M.S.O. and his Work Directing Specialist and numerous other "brothers of the overhead" keep running around checking, carting and doing manually the things the System was set up to do automatically.

One of the problems causing much of the trouble is that Decentralization of Authority and Responsibility divided among the numerous Managers of Shop Operations results into each M.S.O. patching up the system within his own BAILIWICK by the use of numerous salaried help, just to get the job together and finished within his area. Then the System is supposed to see to it that the job moves to the next operation under the jurisdiction of another M.S.O. The job and the parts actually get lost in ORBIT again and we repeat the same performance.

The Union pointed out that it looked good on paper when it started out, but could not be realistic in practice.

The Union is in the process of
(cont'd. next column)

G.E.-JANDREAU SECRET DEAL ON RE-EVALUATION IN THE STEAM TURBINE

A Shop Steward in the Lathe Dept., which is undergoing RE-EVALUATION has found it impossible over a period of two months to arrange a meeting with Jandreau and G.E. to learn the consequences of the change over in his department.

LONG OVERDUE MEETINGS TAKE PLACE ----- IMPORTANT ISSUES SKIPPED.

Such as:

1. What percentage of the Operators will be laid off?
2. Will remaining Operators receive added compensation for the SPEED-UP?
3. What happens if the Operator finds he cannot meet the new work quotas? Will he be replaced?
4. Will the remaining Operators be forced to take a wage cut? (increased productivity without increase in wages)
5. Will the new system mean substituting measured daywork for the present piecework-incentive system?

THESE IMPORTANT ISSUES WERE SWEEPED UNDER THE RUG

Will future meetings just be window dressing? Hasn't Jandreau already committed himself to give G.E. the LION'S SHARE of the huge savings in this RE-EVALUATION program?

This AUTOMATION depends as much on the SPEED-UP OF THE EMPLOYEE as on the SPEED-UP OF THE MACHINE. The Workers will lose JOBS and hard-won gains of the past.

An integral part of RE-EVALUATION is the "Red Circle Deal". Red Circle derives its name from the red circling of the average earnings of the Employee at a certain period. This period is critical because Supervision can scheme to circle his average at a low figure, after recent dumping etc, or take advantage of new Employees on the job, who don't have an average earning. THIS CIRCLED FIGURE BECOMES THE RATE AT WHICH THE EMPLOYEE IS PAID FOR ALL UNPLANNED WORK. It is a forgone conclusion that G.E. in order to undermine the present incentive system, and to CUT RATES, will have a greater percentage of unplanned work.

RED CIRCLE ENCOURAGES FAVORITISM

The G.E. Pet can expect the Co. to circle a high figure for his red circle rate. The Lathe Operators predict that a notorious opportunist in their section will be "red circled" at a high figure.

The RED CIRCLE SYSTEM mushroomed in Bldg. 49, Gas Turb. Dept. Joe Mangino, Chief Steward, steam rolled the drive in this Dept. to force the system on Union Members. Discrimination was commonplace. Working on the same job, but on different shifts, some Members were paid as much as one dollar an hour less than other employees. Naturally Joe, the "Union Leader" had a high figure red circled for himself.

Under Joe Mangino's supervision, standard prices were ignored as were former job rates and classifications, working conditions deteriorated and the conditions of "SPEED-UP" were instituted. STEAM TURBINE EMPLOYEES, FORCED TO BUMP INTO GAS TURBINE, WERE SHOCKED BY EXISTING COMPANY-UNION COLLUSION. Shop Stewards and higher Union Officials, who seem to be a privileged family, enjoyed the BEST PAY, THE BEST JOBS, THE BEST WORKING CONDITIONS, all at the expense of the Rank and File Union Member. Taking care of the "Family" was a cheap price for G.E. to pay for its gains made against the Union Members. Don't let it happen in STEAM TURBINE!

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE

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(I.U.E. Members for Democratic Action)

I.U.E.M.D.A. WHAT WE BELIEVE

I.U.E.M.D.A. MEMBERS realize there is an urgent need for the Union Worker in this technological age to demand a fair share of the increased production derived from AUTOMATION.

In order to go ahead, not to regress, nor to stand still lashed to an arbitrary level, the Company Employee must progress as well as BIG BUSINESS. In the future, it will be necessary for the Rank and File Members to choose Representatives who will be dedicated to the progress of the Union Members; and that the present one-sidedness of the RE-EVALUATION program in the Schenectady G.E. Plant giving all the gains of AUTOMATION to General Electric should cease.

Because our Local 301 Officials have a program of complete capitulation to G.E.'s demands and that basic UNION PRINCIPLES, dedicated to the welfare of the Rank and File, have been abandoned, We, I.U.E.M.D.A. MEMBERS, have found it necessary to organize with the intent of REVERSING the present Local 301 Leaders DEGRADATION into COMPANY UNIONISM.

If the WILL of the MEMBERSHIP prevail, machine rule, "JANDREAUISM", in Schenectady I.U.E. Local will terminate and Rank and File DEMOCRACY will govern for the benefit of all the MEMBERS.

NEWS FLASH

General Electric threatens disciplinary action for turning down OVERTIME. Steam Turbine Employees told to work overtime, when work load necessitates, or face punitive action.

It is too bad, Local 301 officials, have such ties that they cannot even take a position out in the open against General Electric's new policy of mandatory overtime in Steam Turbine.