

## Who Is Fooling Whom?

by Ben Taflewitz  
3rd Shift, Bldg. 273

For the past few months the G.E. Company has conducted an expensive and intensive campaign to get Unemployment Insurance and Workmen's Compensation Bills passed in Albany that would raise benefits to \$45.00 a week, but this would be a big step backward with reactionary clauses and amendments that obliterate the mirage of more money. Gov. Harriman was forced to veto these bills because the gimmicks attached to the bills would turn back the wheels of progress and history.

In the past several weeks the Company has culminated this extraordinary propaganda blast by pleading its concern for the employees' welfare, protection and well-being. Just recall the special emphasis on all this in the June 7th Schenectady Works News, the special talk. (Re: same) June 8th, WRGB Dr. Hudson show, 7:00 p.m., the numerous leaflets or News Letters and the Company ads of June 12-13 in local papers. Indeed, one would suppose the Company officials responsible for this unusual expenditure of time, effort and costly advertising were seriously concerned about the G.E. employees' health and financial protection. Sad to say, the facts unfortunately prove otherwise! Here is the actual record where the great G.E. Co. could have very easily and economically aided the health and well-being of its employees and it cynically refused to do so! To wit:

Since April, both the Union and individuals have attempted to get the Company to institute a simple program of mass inoculations of Salk Polio Vaccine to give protection this summer to the 19 to 40 year age group that is susceptible to crippling, and sometimes fatal, Polio. Unfortunately, the Company has seen fit to flatly reject these pleas and suggestions. Since the Vaccine can be obtained free from the American Polio Foundation and both the City and State Health Depts. would send personnel to help run and expedite the mass inoculation program, it is hard to fathom GE's stubborn attitude.

What is the big million dollar Clinic for? If it will cost the Company almost nothing, what's the squawk? If its more difficult Tetanus Program was successfully encompassed recently, why the hypocritical attitude on giving the Salk Serum to its employees? Evidently all this expensive talk of the Company worrying so much about the health and welfare of its employees makes one take a dim view of the high pressure GE ads about same. With literally all children to age

## How They Voted in N.Y. State Assembly On Unemployment and Workmen's Compensation at Special Session

### Unemployment Insurance

All the Democrats voted for the Labor Amendments in a block, supporting Governor Harriman's position.

The Republicans who supported the Labor Amendments were:

NAME	COUNTY
Edward Amann	Richmond
Thomas Brown	Rensselaer
William Calli	Oneida
Ernest Curto	Niagara
George Dannebrock	Erie
Thomas Ferrandina	Bronx
Hyman Mintz	Sullivan
Thomas Runfola	Erie
Lucio Russo	Richmond
Mildred Taylor	Wayne
Wilson Van Duzer	Orange
Kenneth Wilson	Ulster
Joseph Younglove	Fulton-Hamilton
Mr. Feinberg	Clinton
Mr. Marano	Kings

The final vote — 80 Ayes, 66 Nays.

### Workmen's Compensation

All the Democrats voted to support the Labor Amendments, also supporting Governor Harriman's position.

The Republicans who supported Labor's position are as follows:

NAME	COUNTY
Edward Amann	Richmond
Thomas Brown	Rensselaer
Ernest Curto	Niagara
Thomas Ferrandina	Bronx
Hyman Mintz	Sullivan
Thomas Runfola	Erie
Lucio Russo	Richmond
Mr. Donnelly	Kings
Mr. Marano	Kings

The final vote — 84 Ayes, 60 Nays.

Local 301 was among the Labor Unions contacting legislators during the few days prior to the vote.

301's delegation which was headed by William Stewart, was comprised of Henry Kaminski, William Mastriani, Joseph Koral, William Linka and Henry Caputo.

19 now protected, should any illness occur in the 19-40 age group, G.E. cannot say it did its bit for the "Health and Welfare" of its employees.

It's a sad commentary on the reputation of this great concern that lesser organizations have successfully run adult Polio Clinics locally and no thanks to G.E. At least some percentage of adults now have protection locally this summer. Here is only a partial local score:

Union College—Shots to all students, faculty, employees and relatives. Ditto the Army Depot and Civil Service employees; also Johnstown, Gloversville, Ballston Spa amongst others have set up programs for Polio Clinics for adults.

All we can conclude is if G.E. is so concerned about employee health and welfare, it should make a hasty re-evaluation of the facts and utilize its excellent facilities for the good it's supposed to be for. It's

fortunate that we have a Union that takes a more serious interest and concern in such things and continually tries to effect what's best for the G.E. employees' interests!

Incidentally, some of the Vaccine Programs which were outlined above were free as in the case of Union College, Schenectady City employees and Johnstown. Others were at cost or about one or two dollars a shot, which is better than paying \$4.00 to a private doctor when he can often get the Salk Serum free.

**IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS**  
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301,  
REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY  
GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee

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121 ERIE BLVD. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

## Injured Worker Wins Award

### Wins Compensation Case With Help of 301's Lawyer Over Insurance Co. Plea

When Dorothy McCasland, a GE worker, injured her back twice in succession while at work, at a location insured by a private company, Electric Mutual Insurance Company. This company refused to pay her any compensation benefits on the grounds that "no accident had taken place; no notice was given of an accident; and that there was no disability from such accidents."

The injured worker asked for the help of Leon Novak, Local 301 lawyer, to establish her claim. One and one-half years after the first accident and seven months after the second a trial was held. With the help of her lawyer, Mrs. McCasland proved that both accidents were witnessed by many persons; that plenty of notice was given of these accidents to her employer especially because company foreladies were standing right there when the accidents took place; and a specialist brought in as a witness by the lawyer made it quite plain that the worker had a ruptured disc as a result of the accidents. Compensation was ordered to be paid by the insurance company. The reckless and heartless challenge on no grounds whatsoever did not give the insurance company any advantage except to delay making payments. The law still does not provide a penalty against employers who put up unfounded defenses to harass injured workers.

## More People Hold Second Jobs

The extent to which American workers, particularly men, are dependent upon holding more than one job at the same time in order to maintain their standard of living is illustrated in a report published by the Department of Commerce.

The report shows that twice as many persons held two or more jobs in mid 1956 as compared with the number in 1950, when a previous survey was made. The 1956 survey showed that 3.7 million persons or 5 1/2% of the total employed held more than one job. During the same period in 1950, six year previously, only 1.8 million or 3% of the employed total held multiple jobs.

# LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

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## SERIOUS UNEMPLOYMENT HITS TOOLMAKERS

Nearly one hundred Toolmakers have been removed from the toolmaking occupation in less than one year. More are earmarked to be removed, with a projected continuity of service date of 1946 needed to remain in the trade. Only a few years ago General Electric was looking for Toolmakers without success. The Government declared a shortage of Toolmakers existed in the country, but in Schenectady G.E. we have a surplus. Within the next few months Toolmakers with service up to 40 years will be taken out of the Aeronautics Department and transferred to other Tool Rooms, bumping shorter service tradesmen.

The Union has been urging the Schenectady management to eliminate certain classifications where the work is closely related, and in some cases identical, with the work usually done by Toolmakers. The Union contends that all work that is being performed in Tool Rooms, Model Rooms or Development Shops can be completed within the Toolmaker and T.R.M.O. classifications, making it unnecessary to carry the several additional classifications that allow for duplication of job content. The elimination of these miscellaneous classifications would allow long service Toolmakers and Tool Room Machine Operators to remain in their present occupations.

The reclassification of the employees into these two basic classifications would represent an insignificant increase in cost — in most cases the same rate would be carried over to the new classification. As we go to press, the management has agreed to investigate the proposal made by the Union.

## U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Moral Or Immoral

President John S. Coleman, of the United States Chamber of Commerce, speaking about the right-to-work laws said: "Labor unions . . . should recognize that right-to-work laws 'have a moral basis.'" Answering him are a priest, a rabbi, and a minister.

Rev. William J. Kelley, O.M.I., says: "Right-to-work laws are immoral according to Catholic social teaching."

Rabbi Israel Goldstein, President of the American Jewish Congress says "... can it be said that there is a moral or any other justifiable right to be free not to join the union and to be a free rider?"

Rev. Dr. Walter G. Muelder, dean and professor, Boston University School of Theology says "The right-to-work laws are virtual conspiracy of the crafty, the ignorant, or the misguided to subvert industrial peace, exploit men's need to work, and deluge the community

## NOTICE Membership and Stewards Meeting

MONDAY, JULY 15, 1957  
1st and 3rd Shifts—7:30 p.m.  
2nd Shift—1:00 p.m.

Union Auditorium  
121 Erie Blvd.  
Election of State Convention Delegates  
Report of Committees  
Regular Order of Business

with industrial irresponsibility. Right-to-work laws do not create jobs; they only victimize the worker and make his organization ineffective."

Now, we ask, who knows more about morals, the Chamber of Commerce or these religious leaders?

## Company's Boast That It Voluntarily Grants Compensation Benefits Contradicted by Record

In the Works News of June 28, 1957, the Company boasted that it started payment of Workmen's Compensation benefits voluntarily in 102 out of 104 cases. This left two cases in which injured workers faced immediately the need to go to prolonged trials on their claims; but this does not mean that the other 102 may not face similar trials before their cases are finished. These 102 workers will not be able to rely upon the "good-will" of the Company in receiving what they will be entitled to. Many of these workers will face challenges along the way and will face trials despite the fact that the Company had to start payments promptly because there was no reason to deny that an accident had taken place.

From experience we know that among the issues which the Company will raise in these 102 cases will be the following:

1. Weekly Benefits should be reduced.
2. Treatment should be discontinued.
3. The disability is no longer due to the accident but for "other reasons" so as to release the Company altogether from responsibility.
4. The amount granted for a facial disfigurement is too high and should be reduced.
5. The cause of the disability goes back more than seven (7) years so that the Company should be free not to make any payments whatever and so that the claim should be begun all over again against the Special Fund.
6. The diagnosis of the later condition of the injured worker is challenged requiring the worker to go to trial on the medical issues.
7. The worker's doctor's bills are challenged on the ground that the injured worker has been "over-treated".

In the month of May, when the Company "accepted" 102 NEW cases, the Union's lawyers appeared in court in 102 OTHER cases. Among these 102 cases, nine were challenged cases which were scheduled to be tried with witnesses to be brought in both by the injured worker and the Company; ten were already scheduled for trial during the month of May and the trials were actually held; four were arguments on appeals before a higher body; and among the rest other issues were raised while in still others' briefs had to be written by the lawyers.

If payment of compensation were as automatic as the Company would like to make it out to be, obviously the Company would not need the large staff of skillful representatives and investigators who appear in court in compensation cases.

## N.Y. State C.I.O. 17th Annual Convention

The New York State C.I.O. Council will hold its 17th Annual Convention on August 8th and 9th, in New York City. Election of delegates from Local 301 will take place at the July Membership meeting.

Five delegates are recommended by the Executive Board.

## NOTICE District 3 Council Meeting

July 26th and 27th  
OLEAN New York

## Injured Worker and Medical Treatment More Millionaires

The injured worker takes it for granted that he is entitled to any necessary medical treatment at the Company's expense for injuries sustained while at work.

During the period immediately following an accident treatment is rendered and paid for by the Company. Treatment is given during this period as often as the doctor thinks it necessary for the benefit of the injured worker. Thus far, then, there is no dispute by the Company over the payment of medical bills.

A different situation arises, however, when after a considerable length of time treatment is still being rendered and the Company is still being billed for treatment. In many instances the Company requires the injured worker to be examined by one of its own physicians in order to determine whether they should challenge any further treatment at their expense. In order words, if their own doctor, after examining the worker, informs the Company that treatment is not necessary, the Company has the right to, and often challenges, the payment of any further medical bills.

Such a challenge is filed quite often in cases where treatment has been given with too great a frequency over a long period of time. Whenever the challenge is presented by the Company, the Union's lawyer starts preparing the case for a trial in order to have the Referee decide the question of whether treatment is necessary or unnecessary. If the Referee decides the treatment is necessary, the Company must go on paying the medical bills; if he decides they are unnecessary, then the Company is relieved from paying any further bills unless the situation changes for the worse.

The attitude of the Workmen's Compensation Board on medical treatment has become less liberal in the last few years. Seldom does the Board order an employer to pay for treatment, where treatment is being rendered over a period of years, only for the purpose of relieving pain. The Board requires that in addition to relieving pain that the treatment be able to improve the injury. The trouble with this attitude is that often a worker is able to stay at work only if his pain is relieved with medical treatment even though he does not expect his condition to be CURED by treatment.

Take for instance, an individual who has injured his back. If he refuses to undergo an operation his back may give him trouble for a long time, if not for the remainder of his life; but if the worker wants treatments to help him to stay at work he may find the Board deciding against him with the result that he must expect to get along with a bad back but without medical treatment.

Between 1953 and 1954, the number of millionaires jumped 39 per cent, mainly because of the tax cuts voted by Congress during 1953.

Between 1950 and 1953, the number of those with incomes of one million or more dropped from 261 to 145. After the tax cuts, the number rose in 1954 to 201. The 1954 millionaires averaged \$2,022,000 apiece while the 1953 average was only \$1,900,000.

Other upper brackets also did well — those making \$500,000 to one million went from 373 to 439; those making one hundred thousand to one-half million went from 15,186 to 18,070.

All of these accounted for less than four (4) per cent of the population. Those making less than \$10,000 adjusted gross income in 1954 accounted for 96 per cent of the population. How are you making out compared to these figures? Your increase will be three per cent in September — the president of G.E. claims that yours encourages inflationary trends.

Medical treatment by itself does not put money into an injured worker's pocket. On the contrary, often it means a loss of money to him because his treatment may be given to him on his own time with a consequent loss of time. This question of "the need for treatment" in most instances requires a great deal of preparation of witnesses and many hours of testimony. To get for the worker what he is entitled to takes up a great deal of time at court hearings. The aim is to get whatever treatment is necessary in order to keep an injured worker at work rather than for him to have to stay away from work with consequent physical pain and loss of earnings.

## Pension Reports Exclude Union Credits

The reports on Pension Plan credits distributed last week did not include amounts credited to Union representatives through Union-Company Pension Plan covering lost time on Union activity.

Many Union representatives called the Union office after comparing their pension report with their co-workers' and finding theirs to be considerably less in some instances. The Union has requested the Company to give a report on amounts paid into the individual accounts of Union representatives each month by the Union — this must be added to figures submitted by the Company. The Company claims it will take from 4 to 5 weeks before this calculation can be completed.

Union representatives will be informed of the additional funds that are credited to their account as quickly as we receive this information from the Company.

## IUE-CIO 301 On the Job

*IUE Local 301 handles thousands of grievances at all levels each year. These are just a few examples of cases, not settled at steward-foreman level, to be processed at management level.*

**Bldg. 273:** The group under Shop Steward G. Herman feel that cutting of space blocks should be done by the saw group and not the pipe-fitters.

**Bldg. 16:** The group under Shop Steward J. Ward do not feel that supervision should do work that normally is done by employees in the bargaining unit and also that orders to employees should come from the foreman of the group.

**Bldg. 60:** The group under Shop Steward D. Knowlton feel that the percentage increase for water wheels stator frames should be figured using the type that is now being built as the average. The Company has used frames that are no longer being made as the average and we feel this is an unfair method.

**Bldg. 60:** A time study on the joining of oil pans and oil guards is being requested in Shop Steward H. Malczyk's group.

**Bldg. 96:** The group under Shop Steward M. Alvarez feel that moving trains of trailers falls in the tractor train operator classification and should not be assigned to battery truck operators.

**Bldg. 12:** The groups under Shop Stewards Durante, Mont and Smith feel that supervision's answer of not having control over the weather is no excuse for inadequate ventilation in their building. They are requesting proper ventilation for the employees in this building.

**Bldg. 66:** Under an agreement made with management, there were to be no holes cut or blown in metal where the hole was as small or smaller than the thickness of the metal. Management has seen fit to ignore their agreement and safety by demanding that operators cut any hole no matter how small or how thick the metal. The group under Shop Steward J. Chouinard is requesting that a responsible member of management investigate and correct this situation.

**Bldg. 12:** In the group under Shop Steward E. Smith a job was done under the foreman's instructions and work was performed on it that is not included in the pricing table. They feel that work performed that is not covered by the pricing table should be paid as extra work.

**Bldg. 60:** The group under Shop Steward W. Martin feel that assigning drill press work to the boring mills while the Company is laying off drill press operators is a move designed to cause trouble among the employees. They request that management investigate and correct this situation.

**Malta:** The group under Shop Steward G. Lollias protest the use of Lab. Assistants and electronic men to do the work of the hourly men.

**Bldg. 49:** The group under Shop Steward P. Pisano protest work from a machine which has a lack of work being "farmed out" to another machine.

**Bldg. 85:** The group under Shop Steward W. Donaghue feel that due to the responsibilities on the Simplimatic Machine and the diversified and miscellaneous nature of the work, an upward revision in rate is indicated.

## Current Events In My Section

By Allen E. Townsend

Docket # 7245-57 (reference Docket #1545A) is an example of how the Company deliberately bypassed qualified people for upgrading. In Bldg. 269 we have several Class B Glass Technicians who recently received lack of work notices. Their service goes back to 1940-1941. On checking the plant for bumps, we found that recently Bldg. 37 had upgraded much shorter service Glass Technicians to Class A. In a previous docket filed in 1953 on the same subject the Company agreed to give the longer service Glass Technicians in Bldg. 269 the opportunity for these upgrades. It is the Union's contention that these long service Glass Technicians should be allowed to go into Bldg. 37 now to correct the injustice done to them when shorter service people were upgraded in Bldg. 37. The Company's answer to this one is that Bldg. 37 management will not go along with our contention that these Glass Technicians from Bldg. 269 should be allowed into Bldg. 37. The only alternative for these long service people is to take terrific downgradings in their own department. We have referred this case to the New York level of the grievance procedure.

In reference to Docket #6721-57, the raises negotiated for the Advance Helpers and Helpers in Crane and Elevator Repair, Carpenter and Steelworker groups will go into effect as of July 1, 1957.

As a result of the transfer of work from Schenectady, approximately 1300 employees have already

been transferred to other departments this year. In addition to these, the Company has slated for transfer by the end of the year about 100 employees of the Power Tube Department, 375 more employees of the Specialty Motor Division in the Medium Induction Motor Department and 50 more in the Campbell Ave. Race Track, a total of 675 people. With all of these transfers taking place, it puts a tremendous burden on the Union to see that these people are properly placed. The Placement Committee which meets weekly with management in Bldg. 41 handles many hundreds of job placement cases every year. In a majority of these cases the workers are satisfactorily placed but in many more where their service doesn't stand up for other jobs, or when there are no jobs available similar to the jobs from which they are transferred, these workers are faced with going into other jobs not related to their former jobs. In many cases as a result of this, they suffer a severe loss in earnings. This is a direct contradiction of the G.E. policy which states, "Progress is our most important product".

## Who's Kidding Whom?

By Mike Rakvica

Apparently Mr. Wassmansdorf of Bldg. 16, Personnel Dept., either does not know the contract and its contents or he does not intend to carry out its content.

When Mr. Wassmansdorf tells our Chief Shop Steward that he is no longer needed now or in the future in negotiations in LM&G, that is what I call a lot of nerve. May I ask Mr. Wassmansdorf that since when does he choose Union representatives to attend these meetings. If Mr. Wassmansdorf feels that he has a right to choose Union representation, then the Union feels that we should have the right to choose Company representation.



## Women's Conference

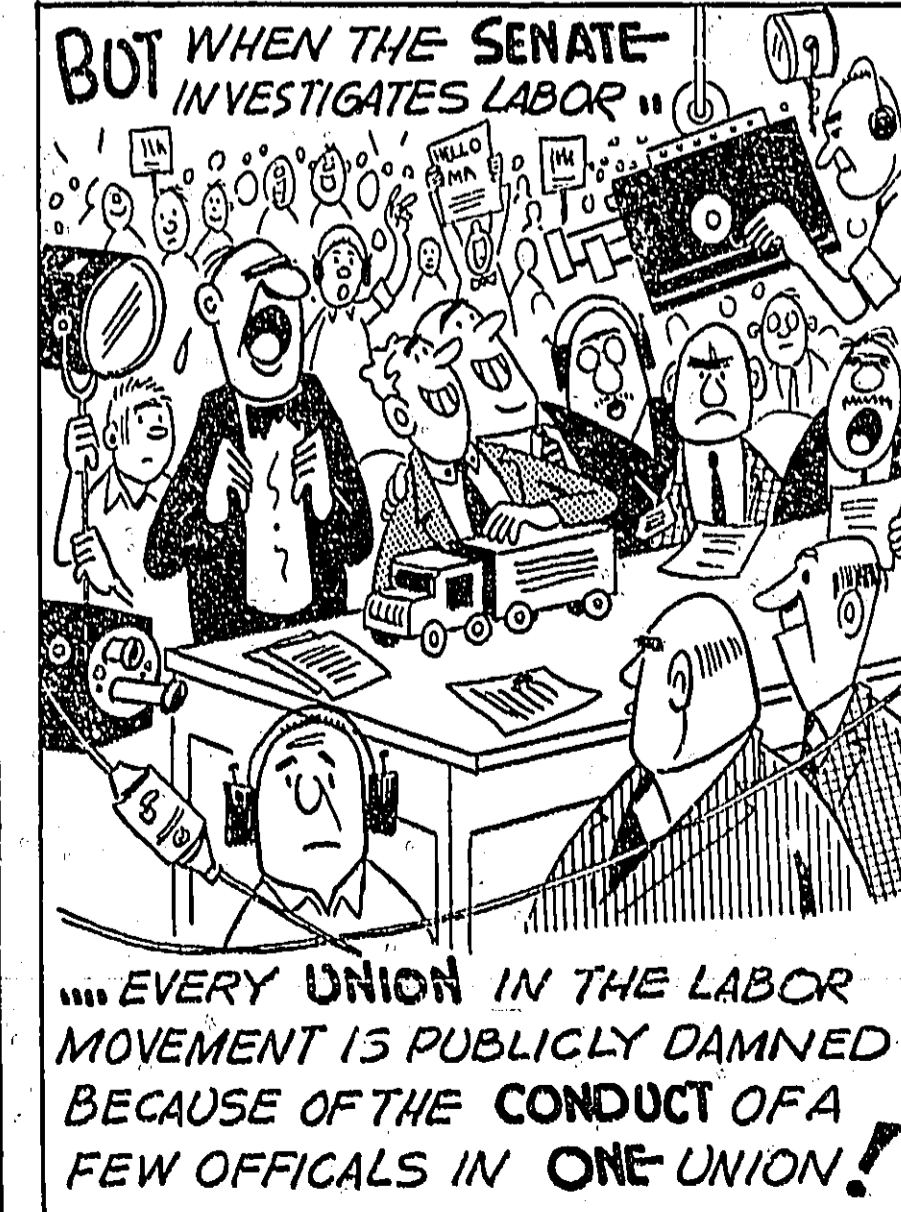
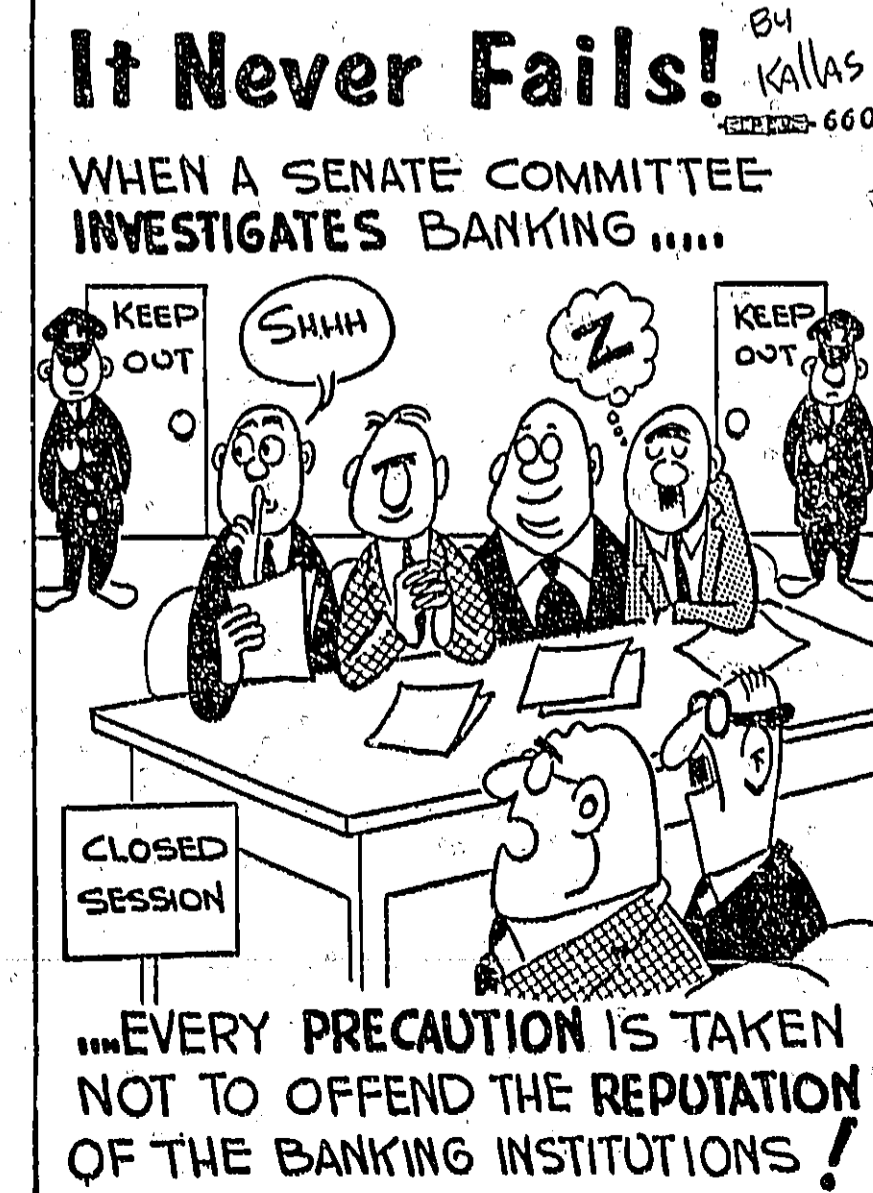
Picture at left is a view of the conference held in Washington on June 17 and 18th, to discuss and develop a program affecting women members of IUE.

Delegates representing Local 301 were Helen Nichols, Bldg. 269; Toni Smith, Bldg. 12, and Anna St. Angelo, Bldg. 40.

The program in part called for "Equal Pay for Equal Work", requesting that the Congress of the United States legislate such a law. It further called for "Equality of Opportunity for Employment and Advancement".

Unfortunately today in many factories in our industry, women suffer discrimination in their rates of pay. In fact, many skilled women workers receive a lower rate of pay than the male janitor or sweeper. This is done in violation of all sound job evaluation programs. Particularly guilty of this are such major corporations in our industry as General Electric and Westinghouse.

Delegates from IUE shops all over the country were present at the conference.



## IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301, REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY GE WORKERS

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