

## Jandreau Warns Low Utica Rates Must Be Raised

Leo Jandreau, business agent of Local 301, went to Utica recently to negotiate with the management of the Utica GE plant on wage scales and job classifications for employees doing electronic work which used to be done in Bldg. 269, Schenectady.

He found the Utica GE paying rates at least 15 cents an hour below the Schenectady rates.

"We're going to stop this runaway shop policy of GE right now," Jandreau declared.

"Local 301 will see that rates in Utica are comparable with those paid in Schenectady for similar work. GE isn't going to save money by moving work out of Schenectady."

The first meeting resulted in a number of reclassifications. The next meeting will center on the Utica wage levels as compared with the surrounding territory and with other GE plants.

## Fitzgerald, Kelly Hit Attack on UE

Albert J. Fitzgerald, UE president, has sent a letter to all locals condemning the recent attack on the union by Harry Block, a UE official from Philadelphia, and James Click, St. Louis.

Block and Click started one of those pre-convention red-baiting campaigns that delight Westbrook Pegler, most newspaper publishers and GE.

The attack was instigated by forces outside the union, Fitzgerald said, was aimed at disrupting the unity of UE and has given aid to anti-union employers.

"It is not the desire of the International Union to engage in newspaper debates with these disrupters," Fitzgerald declared, pointing out that pressing economic and political problems today call for the full attention of all union officers.

He urged locals to be on guard against disrupters and to expose their activities.

William Kelly, vicepresident of Local 301, ripped into Block in a union radio broadcast recently. He called the Block tirades "rubbish" and said Block is handing out "the same kind of propaganda that the big corporations are peddling from coast to coast and doing it to further his own personal ambitions."

## Mapping Local 301 Fight Against High Prices



Members of the Local 301 price control committee discuss plans for an anti-inflation campaign in Schenectady. They will contact other organizations in the city to join forces in the fight against high prices. Front row, left to right, Joseph Dominelli, William Mastriani and Alfred Pelrah, chairman. Rear, J. J. Cognetta, Andrew Peterson, Joseph K. Krone and Meyer Siegel.

## Union Fights Compulsory Retirement at 65 or 60

The membership meeting of Local 301 Monday night unanimously endorsed the action of the local officers and Executive Board in opposing the compulsory retirement of men workers at the age of 65 and women at 60 under the new GE pension plan.

Several members of Local 301 have been notified by the company that they must retire as of Sept. 1, the date the new system goes into effect.

These were the first cases in the coun-

## Local Chooses CIO Delegates

Five delegates were elected to represent Local 301 at the New York State CIO Convention Sept. 11 to Sept. 14 at Lake Placid at the general membership meeting. They are John Saccocio, Rudy Ellis, Fred Pacelli, Dewey Brash-ear and Anthony Lolik. Alternates are George Farrell, Helen Quirini, James Kelley, William Kushel and Leo Sisto.

try reported to the International UE office. Backing the stand of Local 301 officers, the International UE informed GE that the union is opposed to the change in GE policy which would bring about automatic retirement at 65 and 60.

### Unfair to Workers

"We don't believe that men and women should be compelled to quit their jobs and go on pensions at those ages, when they have been performing their work satisfactorily," Leo Jandreau, Local 301 business agent said.

"Local 301 is going to fight such unfair discharges."

"It's one thing to be able to retire at 60 or 65 if you want to. It's something else again to be forced to lower your living standards by being handed a pension instead of wages."

# Electrical Union News

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## Vote for Dominelli Dents GOP Machine

Volunteer union workers made their first dent in the Schenectady Republican machine Primary Day by carrying 29 per cent of all Republican votes cast in the county for Joseph Dominelli of Local 301, CIO-PAC endorsed candidate for nomination as sheriff.

Dominelli rolled up 2,522 votes against 6,104 for the Republican machine candidate, William H. Dunn, GE general foreman, according to the official Board of Elections count.

Although an enrolled Republican, Dominelli received 547 votes in the Democratic Primary against William J. Sherry's 2,280. Dominelli was unopposed for the American Labor Party nomination.

The Board of Elections figures show Dominelli beat Dunn in the Second Ward 390 to 362 and in the Third Ward 246 to 149 and that he lost the Ninth Ward to Dunn by only one vote, 470 to 471. Dominelli watchers figured the score in the Ninth Ward as 470 for Dominelli to 469 for Dunn. Discrepancies were noted in several districts and wards, but the figures were not large enough to affect the countywide result.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Dominelli Wins His Own District

Candidate Dominelli carried his own election district in Rotterdam against William H. Dunn, Republican machine candidate, by a vote of 48 to 22.

Blanchard Mowers, UE, was Rotterdam campaign manager with Jess Gaige as assistant. Dominelli won three districts and rolled up a total of 192 votes in the town to Dunn's 258.

## UE Officers Criticize Price Decontrol Board

A statement by the general officers of the national UE this week declared that the Price Decontrol Board's failure to restore effective food controls "arrogantly tells the American people the price line will not be held."

"Responsibility for this action rests with President Truman who appointed the Decontrol Board," the UE officers said.

"The guilt of the reactionary Republican-Democratic bloc which fought price control is well known. Now the pretense of the Administration that it

(Continued on Page 4)

## Speed Essential in Filing Grievances About Retirement, Vacation, Seniority

Individual grievances are being filed, and should be filed promptly, in all cases where members have been injured or are in danger of being injured by any of these management policies:

1. Compulsory retirement under the new pension plan. Several 65-year old members already have been notified of retirement. These notices will be fought as improper discharges.

2. Denial of vacations to veterans who have not been back six months, with the company refusing to recognize their military service for this purpose.

3. Lay-off or transfer in violation of seniority under the company's super-seniority policy. Loss of wages should be claimed for any period when the worker was laid-off or given a lower-

rated job in violation of seniority, because the company's super-seniority policy was illegal all the time.

4. Refusal to count the nine week period of the strike in computing wage progression, vacation credit or service records.

Local 301 and the national UE officers are fighting out these issues with the general management in New York and will take them to arbitration if necessary. The individual grievances arising out of the policies will be the issues in arbitration.

## New GE Policy On Retirements Brings Protests

Protests against the compulsory angle of the new GE pension plan for retiring men at 65 and women at 60 are being received daily at the union office from long-term Schenectady GE employees.

"The union must protect members who have reached retirement age but who can't afford to stop working and live on the pension," Leo Jandreau, Local 301, business agent, said.

"They have actually been told to take what amounts to a drastic wage cut."

Although an improvement on the old plan in general, the new plan still provides entirely inadequate pension payments, Brother Jandreau pointed out.

Company executives can get \$10,000 and more a year under the plan but the average employe will get less than \$600 a year from the company, in addition to Social Security amounting possibly to another \$600.

### September 1 Retirement

Employees who have been ordered to retire as of Sept. 1 will be paid under the old system instead of the new, the union has learned. This means that GE will deduct their Social Security payments from the company pension payments, instead of adding the pension to Social Security.

There's a vast difference between compulsory and voluntary retirement, Brother Jandreau declared. The union has always favored lowering the voluntary retirement ages.

"As a matter of fact," he said, "the GE retirement ages are still too high. Workers ought to be allowed to retire at 50 if they want to, on a minimum pension of \$150 a month. The fast tempo of work in the shops and the Schenectady production record would more than justify such an arrangement."

Today, however, workers find it a real hardship to face the mounting cost-of-living on their inadequate pensions.



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### Mail Service Now For Lost-Time Pay

A new system has been installed for paying committeemen and board members for time lost from work for handling grievances of fellow union members and other union duties.

They can now sign cards authorizing that their pay for lost-time be mailed to their homes once a month, instead of going to the union office after each occasion to get it.

Adam Boss said payments for August lost-time will be mailed out the first week in September.

### CIO Defeats AFL At Buffalo Plant

Workers in the new Westinghouse plant at Buffalo voted 517 for the CIO and 214 for the International Association of Machinists, AFL, in a recent National Labor Relations Board election.

This victory means that a plant which is expected ultimately to have 7,000 employees will be added to those under UE contracts in District 3.

### \$10 Gift Voted To Church Group

A donation of \$10 was voted by the Capital District Industrial Union Council, CIO, to the industrial relations division of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

This church group has joined in the fight on anti-labor legislation.

### CIO Field Day

CIO unions of Rensselaer and Albany counties will have a public field day and picnic Labor Day at the Nassau Speedways.

The all-day program will include midjet automobile races, a tug-of-war for women, races for men and several baseball games.

Schenectady unions are invited.

## Vote for Dominelli Dents GOP Machine

(Continued from Page 1)

The Dominelli-for-Sheriff Committee won victories in wards and districts where workers canvassed systematically from house-to-house before Primary Day and where experienced and determined watchers were at the polls.

Several instances were reported of machine election inspectors and ward heelers trying to intimidate Dominelli watchers and keep them from performing their legal duties.

Only a few of the wards were adequately covered by the Dominelli workers in the pre-Primary days and many of the volunteers were completely new at such political activity.

As Republican and Democratic machine leaders admit among themselves, the Dominelli workers made a remarkable showing despite these weaknesses and without any army of job holders to call out or any patronage to distribute.

Lessons learned in this Primary campaign will be put to practical use in the November elections, local PAC leaders declared. The methods which brought victory in a few wards and scattered districts can bring victory in others.

#### Second Ward Vote

Anthony Navaretta, UE committeeman, headed the Second Ward campaign committee which carried three of the six election districts for the union candidate. Election Board figures are:

	Dominelli	Dunn
Dist. 1	59	72
Dist. 2	54	21
Dist. 3	126	66
Dist. 4	73	55
Dist. 5	9	62
Dist. 6	69	86

Total ..... 390 362

The largest Dominelli vote from any one district in the county came from District 1 of the Third Ward, 147 to Dunn's 46. Dominelli also won Dist. 2 of this ward but lost District 3. Joseph Rotunda, ward captain, was aided by Fred Pacelli and Vincent Iovinella, both also of Local 301.

Whether Dominelli or Dunn is really the winner by the one-vote margin in the Ninth Ward, the fact remains that the PAC-backed candidate dealt the Republican machine a terrific blow there by carrying four districts and making a good show in the others. Roy E. Lash, UE, was his ward manager.

Dominelli won District 3 by a vote of 36 to 28. Allen Tiscione was district leader.

He won District 4, vote of 105 to 50, with Frank Palmer as district leader.

He won District 5 by 72 to 44, with Steve Zdunczyk, Local 128, AFL Steamfitters, as leader; and District 11 by 73 to 12, with Harvey Ciquinto, UE, and Ben Cappola, Local 2054, USA, in charge.

Other district leaders in the Ninth Ward were: Will Boyden, Lawrence Geho, Willard Kushel, Alfred N. Repka, J. J. Cognetta, and J. J. Krone all UE. They contributed to the large total ward vote.

#### Thirteenth Ward

The Dominelli showing was good in the Thirteenth Ward, though not strong enough to carry it. Dominelli watchers reported that he carried two of the five districts, winning District 3 by a vote of 53 to 40 against Dunn and District 5 by a vote of 70 to 67. However, the Board of Elections figures give Dunn District 5 by a vote of 76 to 70. The Dominelli victory in District 3 is conceded. Don Siskind, UE, ran the Thirteenth Ward work.

#### Active in Campaign

Horace Perryman, Fifth Ward Chairman, did a bangup job for Dominelli in District 1 by getting out 67 votes for him.

John Saccocio, UE board member, and his brother, Joe, put up a stiff fight for Dominelli in the Tenth Ward.

About 200 workers from UE, United Steelworkers of America and Transport Workers Union aided in the Dominelli campaign.

Among those taking an active part were Ernest Herman, Local 2054, USA; Schenectady PAC chairman; Rudy Ellis, UE, county campaign manager, Mrs. Ellis, Andrew Peterson, president of Local 301; Milo Lathrop, UE; Lewis A. Benedict, president, Local 159, Transport Workers Union, and Thomas Fyvie, Local 2054.

Benedict is ALP candidate for City Council and Fyvie for state senator.

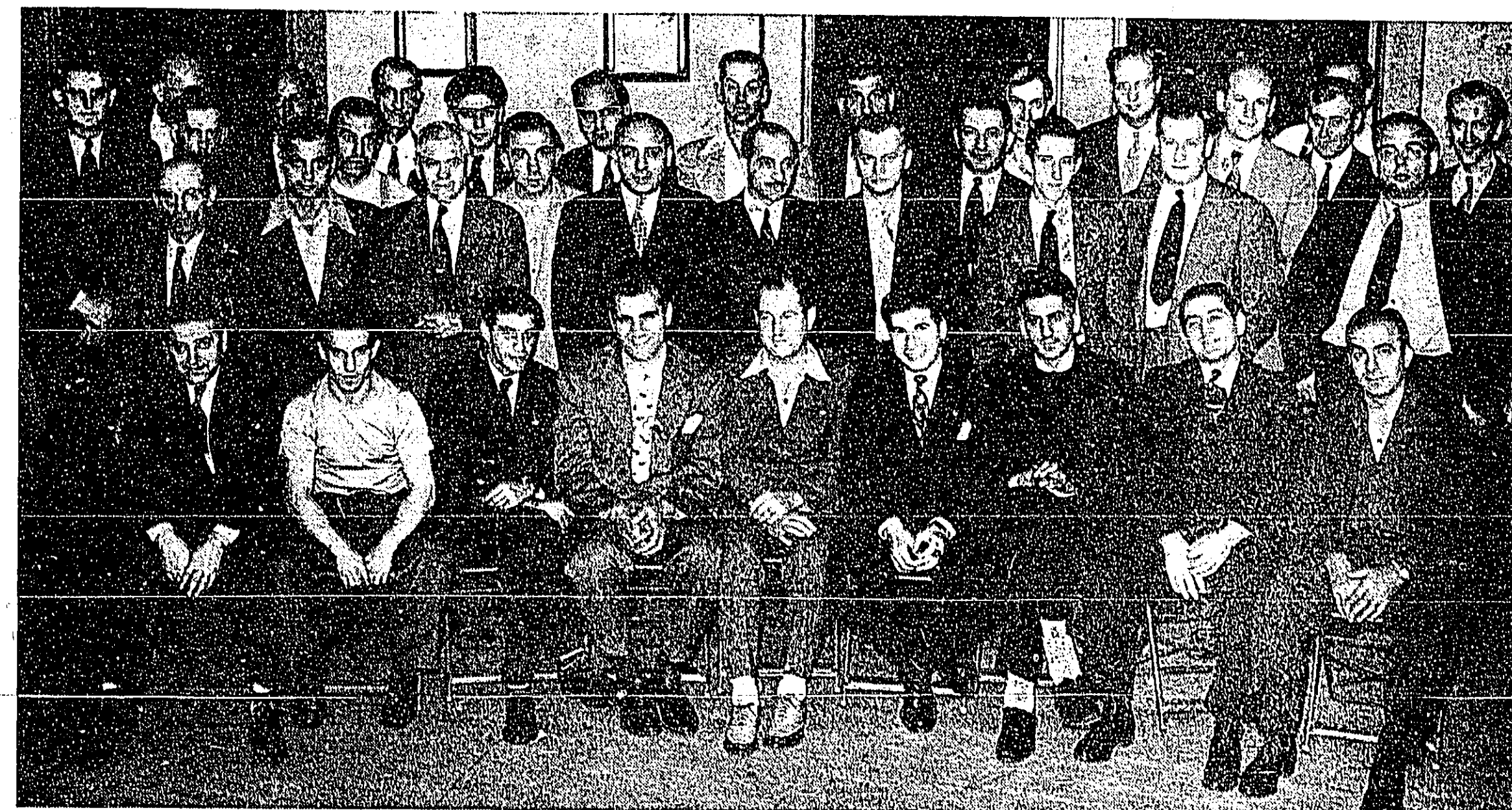
#### ALCO Workers Assist

A group of workers from the Diesel Shop at ALCO took Primary Day off to work for Dominelli at the polls. Maurice Levine helped organize the group.

#### 301 Meets Sept. 17

A joint membership and committeemen's meeting of Local 301 is scheduled for 7:30 p. m. Sept. 17 at the union hall. Committeemen from all three shifts are expected to be present.

## Campaign Workers Have Post-Primary Party and Meeting at 301 Hall



This group of Dominelli-for-Sheriff workers discussed Primary Day experiences and made election plans at a party and meeting Saturday at 301 Hall. Front row, left to right: John Saccocio, Sam DeCesare, Fred A. Fava, Joseph Dominelli, Ernest Herman, Arthur A. Marzola, Alfred Benaquisto, Ernest Saccocio and Frank Santo. Second row, Henry Hermida, Don Tiscione, Al Davis, William Mastriani, Fred Pacelli, Salvatore Maetta, Joseph

J. Krone, Ralph Pietrosanto, Al Polsinelli, Fred DiManno and Allen Townsend. Rear row, Dewey Brashear, Andrew Peterson, S. Zurlick, George Fox, Edward Dell Aquila, James Maney, Manuel Fernandez, John A. DeSieno, E. J. LaBombard, Athony Navaretta, Anthony Tebanno, Gordon Belgrade, H. Wipomski, Bert Nigro, Lee Battaglia and Don Siskind.

### Union Seeks Speedier Grievance Settlements

Continuing difficulty in getting grievances settled properly by the management committee resulted in five cases being sent on to the next step, to Works Manager J. M. Howell, during the past week alone.

After an all-day session in Bldg. 41 Thursday, Business Agent Leo Jandreau remarked that the management committee evidently did not have enough authority to make decisions which would make speedy settlements possible. He said that furthermore the management committee did not seem inclined to make an adequate study of the grievances before they come up for discussion.

The union officers, executive board members and committeemen are continuing to press the company to correct the situation and speed up the grievance process.

Local 301 broadcasts at 7:15 p. m. every Monday over Station WSNY.

### GE Management Breaks Service Records

An apparent management policy to break the service record of as many laid-off workers as possible was seen last week in the many difficulties encountered by such workers who reported to the employment office in response to call-back letters.

In one case even a returned veteran, in bad health, had his reinstatement rights challenged on a thin technicality of procedure.

### Committee Appointed For Organizing Drive

The Executive Board at its meeting Monday placed three of its members, Leo Sisto, John Saccocio and Dewey Brashear, in charge of an organizational drive to sign up all workers in the Local 301 jurisdiction.

The first step will be a section by section check-up of employment lists. Every committeeman will be given forms on which to list all workers in his jurisdiction. The union financial office will compare these lists with the check-off lists.

Two formal grievances were filed last week against the action of the Employment Office in breaking the service of two women, both with more than three years' seniority, because they were unable to accept second shift work. They had good reasons of health and family problems for not being able to work nights.

Both women asked simply that they be kept on lay-off until there would be day shift openings for persons with their seniority. But they were told curtly that their service was broken.

The union contends that the two women should be restored to the seniority list.

All persons whose records are broken without good reason should take their cases up with the union.