

G. E. GUARDS HARD HIT

The Independent Association of Guards and Plant Protection Employees has been hard hit with layoffs, with the most recent involving guards with service of up to 17 years.

The Guards, former members of Local 301, were compelled to leave our Local as the result of a provision in the Taft-Hartley Act which denied security employees affiliating to the bargaining agency (Union) that represented the production and maintenance employees.

Local 301 absorbed some displaced Guards on opening some time ago; however, the employment situation in Local 301 Unit is so bad that the opportunity to absorb more Guards would require layoffs due to bumps in our Unit. The contract also sets up a bar to the effect that employees

from one bargaining unit cannot displace others covered by another bargaining unit.

The Guards have been requesting the management to displace shorter service people on related work not covered by a contract, but the Company has refused this request as of this date.

The critical unemployment condition affecting the guards at the present time is not entirely due to the recession of business but it has been stimulated as a result of the efficiency program of the local management designed to cut cost. The management has ordered a number of gates to the plant closed during certain hours of the day which affects the need for guard coverage. The closing of these gates has resulted in more inconvenience to employees who are required to leave the plant during the hours the gates are closed. Local 301 has protested the closing of these gates.

Shambo Appointed Publicity Head

John Shambo, President of Local 301, has been named to head the publicity division of the County Sesqui-centennial Observance.



SHAMBO

Shambo's appointment was announced by Rev. William Gold, chairman of the Schenectady Commemorative Committee, Inc. Rev. Gold said Shambo will have direct charge of all subcommittees concerned with publicity. This will include radio, television, newspaper releases and public-speaking appointments.

Projects and suggestions for the county's 150th anniversary were discussed at a meeting in the Local 301 auditorium April 22. The actual anniversary will take place August 22-29 but there will be special events throughout the summer months.

U. E. Starts Lies Campaign

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It is so small and ineffective that the only role it can play today is to disrupt and make the major Union, the IUE-AFL-CIO, to spend its time fighting among its members when we should be concentrating on preparing for contract negotiations.

The UE never mentions that the only G.E. plant of any size left in their Union is Erie G.E. The layoffs and transfers have been so great there that there are relatively a few left in the plant. The Union in Erie cannot even afford a full time representative it has been hit so hard. UE could better spend its time working out some job security for Erie workers rather than parading around G.E. gates trying to disrupt G.E. workers all over the country by spreading disunity and lies.

UE has approximately 3,000 G.E. workers left under their jurisdiction—if they were men of character or if they had good intentions that would benefit G.E. workers, they would advise their small group to join with the 100,000 workers under the banner of the IUE-AFL-CIO for the purpose of strengthening our position in the coming contract negotiations with the G.E. Company.

NOVAK ENDS CAMPAIGN

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Here is a facsimile of the ballot that will appear on the voting machines:

A		
LEON B NOVAK	X	LEAVE LEVER DOWN or your vote doesn't count. Lever goes up when you leave machine.
C		

Remember to vote line two and follow instructions to the letter so that your vote will count.

Polls open at noon and remain open until 9 P. M.

Novak who had conducted one of the most vigorous campaigns ever in a school board election, is running on a platform that "our first concern must be the best education we can afford."

He has the endorsement of Local 301, I. U. E., the Citizen's Committee for the Public Schools, the Schenectady Area CIO Council, the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, the Ministers Association and the Schenectady Federation of Teachers.

Novak's platform also contains these other major points:

- Economy—"True economy means getting the most for the available money."
- Efficiency—"Careful planning, proper supervision, regular evaluation and constructive criticism contribute to operating efficiency."
- Improved Methods—"Teaching and administration are not yet so scientific that improvement is impossible. We must keep pace with changing times."
- Education for All—"Every child must be given a chance to reach his greatest possibilities."

"Our schools are too important to us to gamble away our better teachers to save nickels and dimes," Novak said. "Schools, under proper guidance, are the major hope for a better life for ourselves, our children and their children."

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE - AFL - CIO

May 8, 1959

NOVAK LOSES BUT MAKES GOOD SHOWING

VOTERS TAKE 'PENNYPINCHERS' OVER QUALITY IN EDUCATION

LEON NOVAK, LOCAL 301'S CANDIDATE IN TUESDAY'S SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION, PILED UP THE HIGHEST TOTAL VOTE IN THE HISTORY OF SCHENECTADY EDUCATION ELECTIONS — EXCEPT THE MAN WHO NOSED HIM OUT FOR THE SINGLE SEAT VACANCY.

BUT, ONCE AGAIN, ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS WENT TO THE POLLS. OF SOME 34,000 ELIGIBLE VOTERS, ONLY 9548 TOOK THE TROUBLE TO CAST THEIR BALLOTS IN ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ELECTIONS IN RECENT YEARS.

The winning candidate, Mario Facelli, immediately attributed his victory to the support of "organized labor". In truth, Facelli did NOT have the support of organized labor and in fact his whole campaign was in direct conflict with labor's position of what this country's educational program should be.

The position of all labor groups — and most importantly the largest of them all, the international AFL-CIO — is that we MUST have higher and better educational standards; that educational standards should not be sacrificed in the saving of a few tax dollars.

Mr. Novak supported the AFL-CIO position and, thus, won the endorsement of Local 301, the area CIO council, the Hotel & Restaurant Workers and the Schenectady Federation of Teachers, among other groups. Facelli, on the other hand, campaigned on a promise of cutting taxes—a promise that would necessarily mean a reduction in the quality of public education in Schenectady.

But, of course, everyone likes the promise of tax cuts — even tho they may be impossible to carry out or even if they are impractical. Unfortunately, when a candidate for public office promises tax cuts some voters buy this pie-in-the-sky promise of more money in the pocket without stopping to think of just what a small tax "saving" would mean in terms of weakening our public school systems.

This was the issue in Tuesday's election: Quality education vs educational sacrifices at perhaps a savings of pennies.

Unfortunately, the penny-pinchers won the day.

This election marked the first time Local 301 had waged an active and aggressive campaign in a city-wide election.

We were hampered by the fact that a large proportion of our membership lives outside Schenectady and, thus, were not eligible to participate in the election.

But we learned a lot. And, significantly, wherever we had workers at the polls, those districts showed an increase in the number of voters over previous elections. We will stand by our principles and continue to play an active role — indeed, an increasingly active role — in our school system and other projects of interest to the general welfare of the community.

Mr. Novak asked the bulletin to pass along his "sincere thanks to the members who, as volunteer workers in the campaign, gave their time and effort in the interest of better schools and in support of the policies of the AFL-CIO".

STEWART HALTS UNFAIR RATE

A group of employees in Large Steam Turbine were placed on a temporary job moving a stockroom and were unfairly rated at R-11. An alert shop steward, Bill Dingman, felt the men should be rated at R-13 and promptly brought the matter to the attention of Board Member Bob White and Co-ordinator Vitallo.

These men met with management and finally succeeded in raising the job rate two steps to R-13. The increase was retroactive to January 26—the date the temporary job began. This is an excellent example of a good shop steward doing a job of servicing his members to make sure they receive the full benefits due them. Bro. Dingman is to be commended.

NOTICE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - MONDAY, MAY 11, AT 7:30 P.M. IN UNION HALL. OFFICERS WILL MEET AT 6:00 P.M.