

Kearney Supports Anti-Strike Bills

Representative Bernard Kearney told Fred Pacelli in Washington last week that he will vote "for any bill that will stop strikes."

Brother Pacelli, chairman of the 301 Legislative Committee, was one of 80 UE members from all parts of the country to interview their Congressmen on anti-labor legislation last week. They called on the Congressmen after hearing international UE officers testify before the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee.

When Pacelli tried to question Kearney about the Ball bills and other specific legislation, Kearney replied, "I haven't time to study it. I'm not going to commit myself on anything."

Kearney referred to the anti-labor legislation as "just amendments to the Wagner Act." He defended his action in voting for the notorious Hobbs Bill last year.

All the delegates from New York state joined forces to visit Senator Irving Ives.

Ives didn't give a "Yes" or "No" answer on any particular bill, but claimed he has always opposed bills harmful to labor.

He said he objected to politicians making "a political football" out of labor.

A UE member asked whether that was an admission the Republicans are making a political football out of labor now.

"Not the Republicans," he said, "but a few individuals."

Ives told the group that "something will undoubtedly come out" of all the legislation introduced on the labor question, but "it won't be as bad as you fear." He said not to be "too concerned."

Still Waiting

No answer had been received from J. W. Burnison on the toolmakers' and machinists' cases when this week's issue of EU News went to press. A representative of top GE management, Burnison promised Feb. 20 to report within a week or so.

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Assemblers Assemble Over Shop Problems

Assemblers in the Welded Products Division, Bldgs. 52 and 66, met Saturday at 301 Hall to discuss piece work problems and grievances. Board Member James Cognetta presided and Orrance Gottschalk acted as secretary.

The group elected a special committee to assist shop committeemen by calling attention to grievances. This committee consists of Steven Keough, Ray Yon, Philip Cognetta, Sal Maetta and Brother Gottschalk.

Ray Snyder was elected treasurer of a refreshment fund.

Union Presses Fight To Raise Women's AER's

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an hour; those on an AER of 95½ cents made \$1.06, and those on an AER of 98½ cents made \$1.03.

The union committee pointed out that many women were unable even to make their AER of 89½ cents. Committeemen Stella Stankovich and Lucy DeCarlo of Bldg. 89 told Howell that he ought to see how hard some of the women worked to make fair earnings, that many "start before 7 o'clock and work without let-up". The committee argued that proper AER's should be established so that the women could earn a fair pay for normal work, not by driving themselves to the point of illness.

Committeeman Marie Westcott of 69 and Sadie Iovinella of 81 described jobs with an 89½-cent AER in which the women were required to work from difficult blueprints.

Also participating in the discussion with Howell were Committeemen Grace Friello and Albert E. Raymond of 53, James Ducaello of 81, and Board Members Mary McCartin, Stanley Bishop, Anthony Esposito, and Leland Sisto, assisted by President Andrew Peterson, Chief Steward William Mastriani, and Victor Pasche of the union office.

The 301 Executive Board will act shortly on processing the case to the national level.

Movie Program

The Rotterdam group organized to arrange for showing children's movies in the community will announce the date and place of the next program soon, through the EU News and Station WSNY.

\$1,999.79 Donated For Paralysis Fund

Donations of Local 301 to the March of Dimes drive stood at \$1,999.79 as of Mar. 1, an increase of \$100.10 over the report in the Feb. 27 EU News.

Committeemen who still have money to turn in are asked to report promptly to the union office so that the drive can be officially closed.

Addition of \$41.80 to the previously reported \$250.76 brought the collection for Bldgs. 49 and 60 up to \$292.56. William Stewart is Board member for this section, the leader in the Local 301 drive for the benefit of infantile paralysis victims.

Alfred Pelrah reported \$1.70 more, bringing the total for his section up to \$93.40. It is ninth on the list.

The section of Charles Ferris jumped from 16th to 11th place by the addition of \$27.72, making a total of \$86.05.

James Cognetta's section was raised from 17th place to 14th by the addition of \$26.23.

Anthony Esposito's section is still 16th, despite the addition of \$2.65 since the last report.

Local Rejects 2 Applications

Applications of Helen O'Connor and Stella Wysocki, both of Bldg. 269, for reinstatement in Local 301 were turned down by the Feb. 18 membership meeting.

Members rejected the applications on the grounds that both women were active, about two years ago, in influencing people to resign from the union and to join the Mechanics Educational Society of America (MESA).

Miss O'Connor was charged with leading the movement and Miss Wysocki with helping her.

At the request of Miss Wysocki, the Executive Board Tuesday appointed a committee to investigate her application. The committee consists of Albert Davis, George Judway and Anthony Villano.

Radio Program Planned

Anti-labor legislation will be discussed on the radio program of the Capital District CIO Council at 2:20 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 9, over Station WTRY.

Gift for Iron Lung

The Executive Board has donated \$25 to the Schenectady County Tavern Association's campaign to raise funds for an iron lung to be given to the Schenectady Fire Department for free use of Schenectady residents.

Planning Active Program for Women Members of Local 301



Board Member Mary McCartin, at extreme right, with a group of women members of the union at one of series of women's meetings at 301 Hall. Left to right, Hazel Sitterly, Bldg. 89 committeeman; Connie Wrex, Bldg. 89 committeeman; Marie Westcott, Bldg. 69 committeeman; Sadie Iovinella, Bldg. 81; Lucy Zeppitelli, Bldg. 53 committeeman; Helen Rostkowski, Bldg. 26, and Board Member McCartin, representative of women-at-large.

UE Carries Election At Poughkeepsie GE

Production workers at the Poughkeepsie GE plant voted overwhelmingly for UE against the AFL in a National Labor Relations Board election recently. The vote was 128 for UE and 38 for AFL.

The union victory was scored in the face of red-baiting articles about the UE in Poughkeepsie newspapers. Enemies of the union quoted former Bridgeport UE officers, leaders of the Carey-Block faction, in unsuccessful efforts to keep UE from winning the election.

The company called meetings for each shift, before the election. Management told the workers the old story, "the door of the company is always open to its employees."

Charles Rivers, UE district 3 executive-secretary, and Jerry Steinberg had charge of the organizing drive for the union. Dewey Brashear and Mary McCartin, 301 Board members, addressed the final pre-election rally.

Victory in Kentucky

Another smashing victory was rolled up recently by UE at the GE plant at Henderson, Ky. The vote was 121 for UE and 32 for the AFL. The campaign against UE followed the same phony pattern of red-baiting. The local press cooperated with the AFL and the company by printing editorials hailing the expulsion of 26 union members at Bridgeport.

Within the past year UE has won 16 elections at GE plants, including the Utica plant and the foundry and office at Elmira.

Check Your Rights

Members of 301 retiring from the General Electric Company are advised to drop in to the union office to check up on their rights. The union can be of help to them in protecting their claims under the union contract, social security laws, and pension plan.

Time for Red-Baiting, But for Nothing Else

The three top UE officers, President Albert J. Fitzgerald, Secretary-Treasurer Julius Emspak and Director of Organization James J. Matles testified last week in Washington before the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee.

Their purpose was to present arguments against the anti-labor legislation flooding Congress, but they were given scarcely any time to mention the subject.

Instead, they were cross-questioned on the "Red" issue and on the Bridgeport expulsions by Senator Taft, Senator Ball and others.

Senator Ball asked President Fitzgerald whether he personally is opposed to barring Communists from union offices.

"I am opposed to barring from office any person who is a member of our organization," Fitzgerald replied. "We have no second class membership in our organization. — I am opposed to barring Communists. I am opposed to barring Socialists. I am opposed to barring Republicans or Democrats. I am opposed to barring anyone because of his race, creed, religion or political belief."

UE Representative Attacked by GE Ad

The General Electric Co. came to the aid of Bridgeport union disrupters by running a full-page advertisement in Bridgeport newspapers attacking Albert L. Smith, international UE representative.

Brother Smith was sent to Bridgeport by the General Executive Board of UE to safeguard the contract and job rights of members and reorganize the local at the GE plant. The local's charter was revoked because of the illegal expulsion of 26 members.

"Mr. Smith Comes to Bridgeport—and Stirs Up Strife and Trouble" the GE advertisement said in its headline.

GE attacked Smith for publicizing in press and radio the fact that the union disrupters (members of the Carey-Block faction) are headed toward secession and company-unionism.

301 Committee Protests Proposed 10 Cent Bus Fare

Three members of Local 301 went to Albany Tuesday to oppose a 10 cent bus fare for Schenectady, at a State Public Service Commission hearing. They were Board Member Albert Davis; Fred Pacelli, chairman of the Legislative Committee, and John Kasitch, chairman of the sub-committee on local legislation.

The Schenectady Railroad Co. has asked permission to charge a straight 10 cent fare. The 301 Executive Board appointed the protest committee Monday.