

LOCAL 301 NEWS

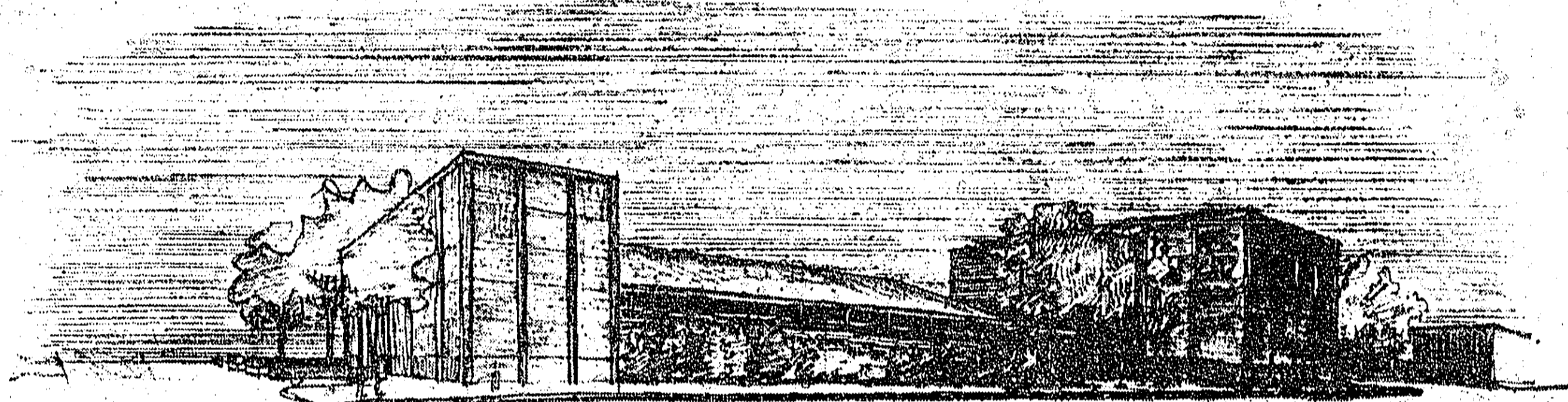
IUE AFL-CIO

Vol. 2 — No. 23

The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y.

May 18, 1956

New Location For Union Building



121 ERIE BOULEVARD

After finding quicksand and the need for piling and steel superstructure which exceeded a cost of over \$100,000, the building trustees were able to purchase the property presently occupied by the Union on Erie Boulevard for a price not much more than the Van Guysling location would have cost due to the understrata condition of the soil.

Women's Meeting A Success

The last Women's Meeting of IUE Local 301 held at Union Headquarters on May 9th was larger than the previous meeting.

An election was held for Secretary and Anne Percassi was elected. Toni Smith, Executive Board Member-at-Large representing women was elected Chairman at a previous meeting.

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Beyond any question of a doubt, the Erie Boulevard location will be much more convenient from the plant and more accessible than the Van Guysling Avenue property. Furthermore, the value of the property on Erie Boulevard is many times greater than the original location.

While the property frontage on Van Guysling Avenue was 350 feet, we will have 480 feet on Erie Boulevard, which will enable the Union to increase the size of the Main Hall, which was planned for 8,000 sq. ft., to 12,500 sq. ft. at the Erie Boulevard location.

The Erie Boulevard location will permit the Union to proceed on a pay-as-you-go basis. The entire building project will be in 3 units, namely the following:

1. Meeting Hall
2. Banquet Hall
3. Administrative and Recreation Building

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G. E. Conference Board to Meet

The General Electric Conference Board will hold its second quarterly meeting on Saturday and Sunday, June 9 and 10. The delegates to the Conference Board representing IUE Local 301 are: James J. Cognition, John Warren and Leo Jandreau.

Local representatives are requested to bring with them the figures showing number of employees eligible to join the Union; also, the

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TOOLMAKERS MEETING

Toolroom Machine
Operators

Development Machinists

Machine Repair

Wednesday, May 23

7:30 P. M.

HANS GRELL'S GROVE
2390 ALBANY STREET

Toolmakers' Committee

Automation Institute — Syracuse

IUE Dist. 3 and the United Auto Workers Region 9 are jointly sponsoring a one day meeting in Syracuse, Sunday, May 20th, to discuss and hear lectures on the question of "What is Automation?" The meeting will be held in IUE Local 320's new union building.

There will be movies and discussions, and the main speaker will be Ted Silvey of the National CIO staff. Registration will start at 8:00 a.m. through 9:00 a.m., Sunday, and the sessions will end at 5:30 p.m. Luncheon will be served to enable the delegates to remain at the meeting without losing time.

Local 301 has urged Executive Board Members and interested Shop Stewards to attend this meeting. The registration fee is paid by each local for every delegate. Transportation will be by individuals volunteering their automobiles and gasoline cost will be provided to the drivers of cars. See your Executive Board Member for last minute details or call the Union office.

Executive Board

MEETING

Monday, May 28

7:30 p.m.

UNION HEADQUARTERS

121 Erie Blvd.

18,000 Leave U.E. District 4

One week ago today representatives of 18,000 U.E. members in Dist. 4 of U.E. voted to disaffiliate from U.E. and join the IUE-AFL-CIO. The Executive Board of U.E. Dist. 4 recommended disaffiliation to the representatives of U.E. Locals which was indorsed.

The U.E. Locals have been offered the same conditions as were worked out and accepted by IUE Local 301 two years ago. U.E. District 4 President, James McLeish, stated: "We feel that the time is long past for U.E. members to join the majority Union in the Electrical, Radio and Machine Industry, IUE-AFL-CIO, to achieve Unity." McLeish went on to say, "We find that the National Officers have spent more time throwing obstacles in the way of this Unity than in actually trying to unify the Industry."

James J. Matles, Organizational Director of the U.E. and one of the three U.E. National Officers, said he would fight the disaffiliation move in District 4. He publicly stated that he has fired 12 leaders in the District. District 4 covers the Metropolitan New York and New Jersey Areas. Matles also stated that he has directed District President McLeish to turn over all funds and properties of the District

and the Locals' to the U.E. National Office. He notified Business Agents in District 4 that they no longer represented the U.E. This procedure is commonly used by the National U.E. and was used in the Schenectady 301 disaffiliation. Matles will obtain Court Orders and tie up the funds of every Local and finally end up with a considerable sum of money for the defunct U.E. National Union. The procedure of court litigation is costly to the local unions and, if continued indefinitely, would consume all the money in dispute. Matles waves the National Constitution whereby if only 7 people remain in the U.E., the Locals' and District treasuries belong to U.E. The National Officers of U.E. claim they will force the employers to recognize their contracts in the area affected. The disaffiliation move covers nearly 200 contracts.

Other moves of disaffiliation have been reported as taking shape in other districts throughout the country.

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: Since the recent retirement of a C1 A Inspector in Shop Steward Wm. Kelly's group supervision has attempted vainly to cover three jobs with only 2 Inspectors resulting in piece workers having to wait for inspection. Union demands management correct this situation.

Bldg. 60: Groups under Shop Steward J. Riano are classified as Crane and Elevator Repairmen, Electrical Repairmen and Mechanical Repairmen. Union demands reduction of forces be applied as one group according to length of service as per Local Supplement pursuant to Article XI.

Bldg. 18: Machinist—Repair and Erect group under Shop Steward S.

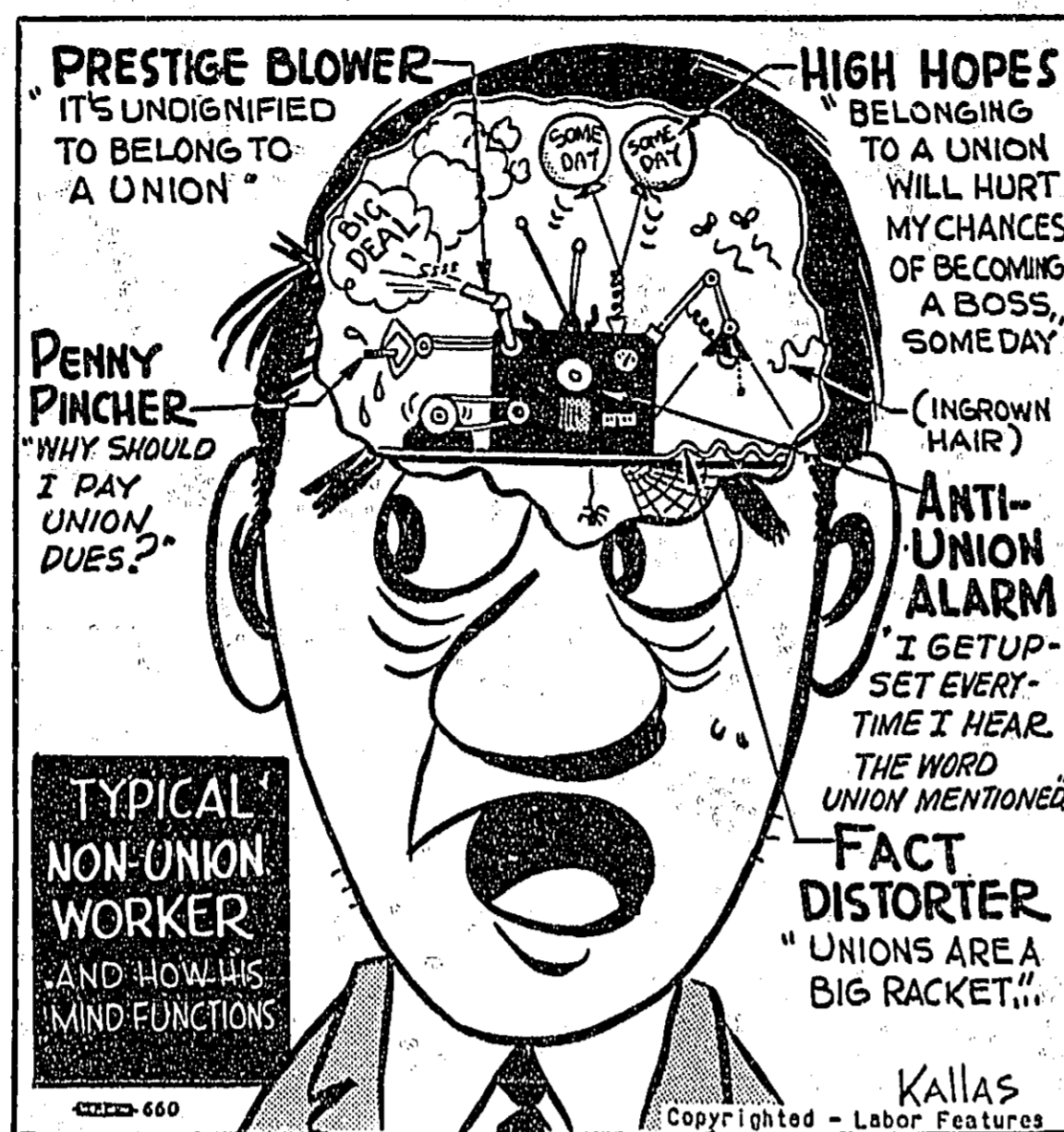
IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301,
REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY
GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee

President.....James J. Cognotta
Vice President.....Joseph Alois
Treasurer.....Joseph Whitbeck
Recording Secretary.....Miles Moon
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Chief Shop Steward.....William Mastriani
Business Agent.....Leo Jandroun
121 ERIE BLVD. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

THERE'S ONE IN EVERY OUTFIT



Essington U. E. Local 107 Still Out

The Essington U.E. Local 107 representing the Westinghouse Corporation's plant that manufactures turbines is now in its seventh month of strike.

When the U.E. accepted the Westinghouse offer, the proposal did not cover the problems existing in U.E. Local 107 so they were left on the picket line while all the other Westinghouse workers returned to work. U.E. is not able to settle the turbine dispute in Westinghouse because it only represents a small segment of the Westinghouse workers. On the other hand, the Westinghouse workers in U.E. Local 107 have not made up their minds to do something about it themselves. It would seem that after 7 months of experience in dealing with an anti-labor corporation, they would realize they need the support of the entire labor movement to protect their standards and jobs. They should announce their intention of joining the majority in the labor movement and at that point the labor movement would be obligated to help. Up to now they have decided to remain in U.E. even though the leadership of District 4 announced they would recommend disaffiliation from U.E. affecting 18,000 U.E. members. Essington Local 107 is in District 1 which is practically next door to District 4.

The National Negotiations Committee as well as the Executive Board of IUE Local 301 has gone on record that we will not provide financial or moral support to U.E. Local 107 until the members or leaders of this Local have indicated they are prepared to help them-

Eye Bank Beneficiary Aided by Union

John Kolor, Building 273, who lost the sight of his left eye due to an accident and who is now being operated for the transplantation of a cornea from the Eye Bank has been represented by our Union lawyer in his claim for compensation. Compensation benefits and medical expenses are being paid by G.E. under the compensation claim filed by the Union's attorney.

Representative From Local 301 on UNESCO

The local area organization of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has requested a representative from IUE Local 301.

The program and purpose of UNESCO is to stimulate interest and thinking on questions, such as: "Lesser Developed Areas", "Spiritual and Moral Resources for International Cooperation" and "U. S. Relations with Asia". The program started in Schenectady this Spring and will be continued on in the Fall.

Joseph Whitbeck, Treasurer of IUE Local 301, was selected by the Executive Board as our representative.

Van Vranken Des Forges and Charles D. Watland from Union College are acting as the project co-chairmen.

G. E. Conference

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number of members affiliated to the Union and a report on the organizing campaign presently in progress in every G.E. Local.

A report is expected from every Local covering the employment situation and the future outlook. A grievance report will be made by the Officers of the Conference Board. The National Negotiations Committee will also make a report. Reports will be made by the National Comptroller, Director on Pensions and Insurance, the Research Director and the General Secretary-Treasurer.

selves by disaffiliating from U.E. and joining the majority in the Electrical Industry within the IUE-AFL-CIO. Until then they have made their own bed to lie in!

Widow of Malta Worker Wins Court Suit Through Union Attorney

Three years after his death, Mrs. Elizabeth Poirer, the widow of Francis Poirer who worked as an Oxygen and Hydrogen operator at the Malta Works of the General Electric Company, was vindicated in her claim for compensation by a decision of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. She was represented by Leon Novak, Attorney for Local 301. By

The decedent was found dead the next morning; his palate looked burned as if he had swallowed a caustic substance. The physician concluded that the decedent had died from a 'septic sore throat' and 'toxic myocarditis.'

After pointing out these facts as to the death of the worker, the Court said that "the claimant encountered considerable difficulty in obtaining proof as to the exact nature of the occupational hazard to which the decedent had been exposed. . . . However the claimant was able to prove that the decedent's work involved the handling of various chemicals including hydrogen peroxide made with so-called 'heavy hydrogen', which was highly volatile and which would burn a hole in the floor if spilled." The Court then said that the proof offered was sufficient to win the case and that the continual delays of the employer in offering any proof to the contrary was sufficient to establish the fact that the widow was entitled to compensation.

Although the worker's widow will receive her back compensation, no one will be able to make up to her the troubles which she had by being compelled to wait for this decision. In the three and a half years while she was waiting for the case to be decided Mrs. Poirer had to spend over a year in the hospital while her daughter had to be cared for by relatives.

The Building Committee is now working on several appeals taken to the courts by General Electric in cases which were already won by the injured workers.

New Location For Union Building

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The Meeting Hall will be project #1 and will get under way as quickly as the architectural drawing can be altered and bids for construction awarded. The Main Hall will be completed this year. In the meantime and during construction of the Main Hall the Union can operate from its present location until we are ready for renovation of Unit #3. Temporary quarters can be set up in the Main Hall while this construction proceeds.

The Building Committee points out that these plans will also result in a more economical procedure. Renting the lower part of the main building is being considered by the Building Committee to offset operational cost until we are ready to proceed with the final renovation of this part of the building. It is important to know that the change of location will not increase the professional services originally estimated, such as architect fees, etc. The Building Committee estimates that the new location will provide a much more satisfactory result without increasing the estimated cost of the Van Guysling Avenue project.

The architect's drawing of the final building project completed is pictured.

THE LEGAL CORNER

(A Column Written by LEON NOVAK of Novak & Diamond, Attorneys)

This is a continuance of the article which was started in the last issue on, "What To Do In Case Of An Automobile Accident."

8. Assist Police. Remain at the scene until the police, or sheriff or highway patrolman arrives, unless prevented by the necessity of transporting the injured to a doctor or a hospital, in which event return to the scene of the accident. If anyone is injured you must report the accident to the police or sheriff in any case. That means giving your name, address and license number and exhibiting your driver's license. You may also give the officer a brief account of the main circumstances, such as the direction each car was going, whether or not one car was speeding, etc, but this information should not be given in the presence of persons other than the peace officer.

9. Comment. Don't comment on the accident except to the peace officer investigating the same. Keep your notes and information strictly to yourself. Admit nothing and sign nothing, even if you think you are in the wrong. You may learn later that you were not in the wrong or that the other driver was equally to blame or more so. Hasty, emotional admissions can be costly! There is plenty of time to admit blame later if

the facts clearly show you alone were wrong. Remember: No one may force you to give him details of the accident, either on the scene or at the police station. No one can force you to admit blame. You have a right to see your attorney before making any statement. If the accident is serious consult him as soon as you can.

10. See a Doctor. Have a doctor examine you if you are aware of any injury whatsoever. Serious and costly injuries do not always result in immediate pain or bloodshed.

11. Reports. If anyone is injured or if the property damage to the cars totals \$50.00 or more, you must report immediately to the local authorities and report in writing to the State Motor Vehicle Department within 24 hours. You may obtain a form to fill out either from the police or sheriff or from the Motor Vehicle Department. The information called for on this form can be used against you later in court so be extra careful what you say. If injuries prevent you from making the report, have someone else in the car make it for you or make it yourself as soon as you are able to if you were alone. If you have an attorney or intend to employ one, have him approve this report before sending it in.

THERE'S ONE IN EVERY OUTFIT . . . By KALLAS

