

GE Tries Pressure in Turbine Shift Fight

The dispute over the 7½-hour shift established in the Turbine Division was deadlocked in its second week. At the time this issue went to press, the company had made no move to meet the protests of the men. It was putting pressure on the men through the foremen, in an effort to break ranks and get groups to accept overtime.

In general the men were holding solidly to their pledge to refuse overtime as long as the company insisted on the short shift. There were temporary difficulties in spots, chiefly because of rumors that one group or another had decided to return to overtime work. In most cases the difficulties were straightened out promptly after the correct information was obtained.

The decision to refuse overtime came from the floor in a big Turbine Division membership meeting, held in two shifts last week. There was one dissenting vote.

Stewards have been kept busy answering questions by men upon whom foremen had put pressure. The Turbine Division Negotiating Committee of ten stewards pointed out that the decision came from the men themselves.

It appeared that the company had stepped up its overtime program in an effort to influence men against their own action.

Direct Delegate Election Urged by Executive Board

The membership meeting Tuesday night, on recommendation of the Executive Board, called for an amendment to the Constitution to provide for direct election of convention delegates from the floor instead of on board recommendation. The Constitution committee was asked to submit such an amendment.

The board pointed out that it made the recommendations for delegates because such was its duty under the Constitution as it now stands, and that there was nothing un-democratic about the practice. The board continued:

"Some of the criticism of the practice was obviously made for purely factional reasons, by a clique which would destroy democracy in this union if it got the chance. But many members object to the practice for sincere reasons of trade union practice. On the whole the Board agrees that the practice is outworn and that it is better to have simple, direct elections from the floor."

NO MORE FREE RIDERS!

Reporting on Turbine Shift Dispute



At the Turbine Division membership meeting last week, the special committee of division stewards reported on the company's insistence on a 7½-hour shift for large groups in the division. Above Ray Frederick, 60, is speaking. At the table are Board Member William Stewart, President Andrew Peterson, and Steward Gabriel Maitino. In the rear row are William Kelly, assistant to business agent, and Stewards Emmett Brennan, Ernest Fainelli, A. C. Signor, Joseph Hallenbeck, and Roy Lash. The meeting voted to refuse overtime until a satisfactory schedule is worked out.

Ten Delegates Are Elected To State CIO Convention

Ten delegates to the State CIO Convention, were elected by the membership meeting Tuesday, five on nomination by the Executive Board, and five on nomination from the floor. The convention will be held in Saratoga Springs, September 4, 5, and 6.

Winning election in a field of 18 named from the floor were Board Member William Stewart, Treasurer Marshall White, Fred Pacelli, legislative chairman, Edward Wallingford, and Stanley Fisher.

Elected by the board on the board's recommendation were President Andrew Peterson, Business Agent Leo Jandreau, and Board Members Dewey Brashear, James Cognetta, and Mary McCartin.

A motion to table the board recommendation was defeated by a 98 to 50 standing vote.

Carboloy Speed-up Spreads

Extension of the carboloy tool speed-up to another department in Turbine was announced this week when Foreman James Hotaling in Building 60 notified Steward Ray Frederick that time studies would be taken on a job on a small vertical boring mill. The job had been priced for high speed steel tools.

CIO Council Program

The Capital District CIO Council has a radio program at 6:55 every Monday over WTRY.

Wilson Joins Carey-Block, Says Peterson on Speech

"I see that now Charlie Wilson has now joined the so-called Democratic Action group which would like to run the union," 301 President Andrew Peterson said this week in commenting on the GE president's call on union members to "heave out the left wing parasites."

"Of course," Peterson continued, "Charlie supported that gang in public advertisements in Bridgeport, so I'm not surprised. But I know our membership has no intention of letting him run our union. They will continue to make their own decisions, and they found out from bitter experience that Charlie Wilson is not for the welfare of our members."

"As a member of the Quarter Century Club myself, I do not believe that many of its members will welcome Mr. Wilson's suggestion that they butt into the union's affairs."

"I see Mr. Wilson complains of people who cause 'disorder and disunity.' But he makes no reference to the disunity caused by refusing to meet the wage pattern, firing workers for virtually no cause, speeding-up workers, driving prices up, and getting the Taft-Hartley law passed."

CIO Vote

If all CIO members and their families register, their total vote would be about 15,000,000. That is approximately 25 per cent of the nation's vote.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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Cancel 41 Firings At GE Boston Plant

Discharge notices were canceled last week by the East Boston lamp plant of General Electric, in the case of 41 of the workers who had stopped work the previous Friday because of the intense heat and humidity.

However, the company stuck to the ant job was to let the world know the full details of the program for which PAC stands, and use this as the basis both to collect the dollars for the 1948 campaign, and to get all CIO members registered to vote in this year's local elections.

The change in the company's previous position was made locally after the case had been taken up by the national UE office with the national GE management. Discussion continued at the national level in New York this week, with the UE insisting that the company cancel the discharge of the three, as well as withdraw any threat of future firing of the 41.

The extreme action taken by the company in the case has aroused considerable concern in GE locals over the country.

Papers Soft-Pedal 301 Traffic Role

As the result of a traffic conference initiated by Local 301, the city has announced a trial plan for re-routing shop buses from the GE plant.

This concrete step to relieve traffic congestion is the direct outcome of activity by the union's new transportation committee. The 301 group took the lead in the setting up of a joint committee representing the city, the Schenectady Railway Co. and labor, as the EU News reported Aug. 22.

Both the Schenectady Gazette and the Union-Star ran big stories the same day about the proposed improvement in bus routes. But not till the last paragraph of each story was Local 301 even credited with having representatives at the traffic meeting. Neither paper even hinted at the fact that the whole idea of the joint traffic committee was initiated by Local 301.

KEEP SIGNING UP UE MEMBERS

301 Drive to Press PAC Program, Big Registration, \$1 Contributions

An immediate drive to carry the PAC program to the membership and the community, together with collection of dollar contributions, was voted Tuesday night by the Local 301 Executive Board in a joint meeting with the legislative committee, and with Clifford McAvoy, representative of the national CIO-PAC.

The board felt that the most important

job was to let the world know the full details of the program for which PAC stands, and use this as the basis both to collect the dollars for the 1948 campaign, and to get all CIO members registered to vote in this year's local elections.

Registration in October for this year's vote will be the next big push.

Plan Citywide Set-up

The Co-ordinating Committee of Schenectady CIO unions is arranging to set up a joint body of representatives of the locals to plan the PAC work on a joint basis. The Co-ordinating committee also met with Brother McAvoy, Anthony F. Barbieri, president of Steelworkers 2054, is chairman of the committee.

Vice-President William Hodges and Fred Pacelli, chairman of the legislative committee, will represent 301 in the city-wide PAC group.

The PAC and Executive Board will re-

Here's a Reminder About Holiday Pay

To make sure of getting your Labor Day pay, remember the holiday provisions of the GE-UE contract.

A worker who leaves early on Friday without specific permission from his foreman, or returns late Tuesday without good reason, runs the risk of losing the holiday pay.

Of course this requirement to work the last day before the holiday does not refer to overtime, but only to the regular work week.



Clifford McAvoy

port to the membership meetings on the candidates who have endorsed the PAC program approved by the membership. This list includes candidates of the Republican, Democratic, and American Labor parties.

This procedure represents a change from the plan to set up a complete "Independent Citizens" slate, which had been voted by the membership. The action depended on finding a strong independent candidate for mayor. The Executive Board was unable to find such a satisfactory candidate within the short time limit allowed by the election law for the filing of independent nominating petitions.

McAvoy Reports on Tour

In his discussion with the board, Brother McAvoy reported on a tour around the country for national PAC, in which he found CIO members excited about the need for political action. He cited the case of a packinghouse local in Iowa, an arch-Republican stronghold, in which every member gave a full day's holiday pay, just won by the union, to the PAC fight. He said:

"If we're to have a union after 1948, we have a big job to do on Congress."

Brother McAvoy also pointed out that the local elections here involve important local issues, and would have a big bearing on the work CIO could do in 1948 to defeat Congressman Bernard W. Kearney.

GE Asked for Aprons

By decision of the Executive Board, the union has filed a grievance asking the company to furnish aprons to all workers who wear them on their jobs. The union suggested the aprons be kept in tool cribs and issued like tools.

Pensioners to Meet

The monthly meeting of the UE-CIO 301 Pension Organization will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the union hall.

Pensioner Answers Wilson on Charity

Here's hoping that GE President Charles E. Wilson heard the 301 radio broadcast Aug. 18 in which Albert T. Van Der Zee, president of the UE-CIO 301 Pension Organization, discussed a few of Wilson's remarks to the GE Quarter-Century Club.

Wilson heaped praises on the long-service group.

"If giants have walked in the Mohawk Valley, you have made them walk," he declared.

He said that one way of reckoning time in the electrical industry is "by lives made longer and happier."

Speaking of the international situation, Wilson said, "The world will never be at peace so long as part of it subsists on charity and continually spawns on discontent."

Pensioners in Need

Brother Van Der Zee said he thinks he can understand the plight of "the hungry and suffering people of the world a little better than Mr. Wilson can."

"You see I am one of them," he said. "I am a GE pensioner. . . . Today a large number of GE pensioners, men and women who have spent the productive years of their lives producing wealth for the General Electric Company, are dependent upon charity. The sad condition of our GE pensioners has been brought to the attention of the GE management by Local 301, but nothing has been done about it."

GE Won't Discuss Pensions

"Mr. Wilson says that he is opposed to charity. So are the GE pensioners. The Executive Board of Local 301 has suggested a plan for putting an end to charity among the GE pensioners. Mr. Wilson's pension board turned down the plan. The company said that pensions were not a subject for discussion between the company and the union.

"The General Electric Company has failed to meet its obligations to the men and women who have spent their lives making large profits for the company."

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Turbine Workers Meet In Three Shift Groups

To meet the continuing pressure by some foremen and the many rumors spread around the Turbine Division, Board Member William Stewart this week called the division membership to a special meeting in three shifts. The meetings were held yesterday and early this morning, all after this paper went to press.

The deadlock over the 7½-hour shift continued in its third week, and the division members continued to refuse overtime. The men are determined to win back their 8-hour shifts.

It was expected that the question would be discussed again with the national management at the grievance meeting with Business Agent Leo Jandreau this week.

AFL-CIO Action

Members of The Troy AFL-CIO Legislative Committee voted unanimously at their last meeting to intensify their efforts to elect pro-labor men and women to public office and to use every means at their command to fight the Taft-Hartley law. They voted to start an AFL-CIO radio program.

PAC Program

A copy of the PAC program adopted by the July membership meeting of Local 301 has been inserted in every copy of the EU News this week. The Executive Board directed that the 301-PAC program be distributed to the membership this way.

Leland Stowe Broadcast

The weekly news analysis by Leland Stowe, sponsored by the national UE, is at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday on WSNY, WABY and WBCA (FM).

301 Steward Dies

Edward P. Ryan, guard, who had been a 301 shop steward since March, 1943, died Aug. 22 at Ellis Hospital. He worked until noon the preceding day, when he was stricken at the plant.

Despite a serious operation last year, Brother Ryan continued to fulfill his duties actively as a steward. He had made an appointment to telephone the union office the day he died to get a report on a grievance case. He is survived by his widow and two sisters. His home was at 817 State St.

60 Million Job Goal Is Still Far Distant

By Russ Nixon

UE Washington Representative
The Press claims Henry Wallace's goal of 60,000,000 jobs was reached. It's not so!

Wallace meant full time jobs and only 46,700,000 full time jobs existed on the average during the first half of 1947.

Government offices and the newspapers must learn that unemployment can't be hidden by phony figures. So far they are still trying.

But look. Official Census reports 2,555,000 unemployed in June, 1947. In addition, not counted as jobless by the Census, 2,890,000 persons said they wanted a job. This question was asked in a special Census survey but the Government decided these people "weren't in the labor market" therefore couldn't be counted as jobless.

Statistical Humbug

The Census kept this information secret in a report marked "Confidential". That's statistical humbug — hiding the truth that there are now more than 5,000,000 persons, able and willing to work but without jobs. That means 5,000,000 unemployed.

This fact may be hidden for a while, but not for long. It symbolizes the basic fact that the "unprecedented prosperity" President Truman reports is on very shaky ground. This prosperity now is not as great as claimed and nothing is being done to counteract the forces working to undermine even this prosperity. These forces are soaring prices, unchecked profiteering, declining purchasing power and real income.

Hold your hats and incidentally your union, your collective bargaining contract and pay your PAC Dollar.

There's a storm brewing.

First Kansas UE Contract

Lawrence, Kansas (UEKS)—The first UE contract with a Kansas plant was signed recently with the Commercial Equipment Co. here. UE General Vice President William Sentner helped Local 808 negotiate the contract.

301 Radio Program

The Local 301 radio broadcast is at 7:15 p.m. every Monday on WSNY.

Chamber of Commerce Gives Blueprint for Faction; Handbook Would Tamper with Grievance Procedure

(The U. S. Chamber of Commerce drive against labor, spear-headed by GE's vice-president on leave, E. O. Shreve, president of the chamber, was described in articles in the last two issues of this paper. The last issue told how the Chamber's handbook gave pointers on how employers and their foremen could quietly encourage the development of a red-baiting faction within a union to split the union.)

Factional splitters within unions can now get their instructions directly from the Chamber of Commerce. For the chamber's handbook lays out a detailed blueprint on the work of such a faction.

Under the impressive heading "Tactics in the Struggle", the chamber advises on formation of a red-baiting "caucus," meeting "quietly in one another's houses," and canvassing "throughout the entire plant" in building up a slate of candidates. It also suggests whispering campaigns:

"Ordinarily Communist charges are best reserved for the inner caucus and for word-of-mouth reports spread through the plant . . ."

Politician's Advice

It gives a practical politician's advice on picking candidates, pointing out that "Departmental, shift, racial, national and religious factors are normally considered in picking a good slate."

Under "Consolidation of Power", the Chamber advises the red-baiters to preserve their "caucus" if they win, in order to "arrange disciplined voting" at meetings.

Under the heading "Building from the Bottom" the booklet advises the faction members to criticize the officers. It also suggests a nice squeeze play with the foreman to tear down a shop steward.

"He", says the booklet referring to the faction member, "may insinuate that

better results could be obtained if the workers handled their own grievances directly with the foreman." Or he may be able "to goad the shop steward into letting him take up cases with the foreman."

Of course, the booklet was written before the Taft-Hartley law was passed. Since then employers have begun to act more openly. The GE advertisement right after the bill passed suggested quite frankly that "members by-pass the union on grievances. And at the Quarter Century outing on August 16, Charles E. Wilson butted right into the union's business to demand that members "heave out the left-wing parasites."

The membership can expect a great deal more of all this, and you will always be asked to believe that it is based on pure patriotism. The question will still be "what kind of patriotism, the people's or that of Big Business?"

Appeals Day

Any member dissatisfied with the way a grievance has been handled can appear before the 301 Grievance Committee at 4 p.m. any Friday at the union hall. Second shift workers can be heard at 1 p.m.

BE SURE TO GET A COPY OF 1947 GE-UE CONTRACT



Who Has the Money?

The latest survey of family incomes by the U. S. Federal Reserve Board shows that in 1946, 65 percent of all family units in the country had an annual income of less than \$5000 a year.

Fifty percent of the families of the country have only three percent of the country's personal savings. On the other hand the wealthy 10 percent of the families have 60 percent of total savings.

During 1946, \$8 billion were added to

total savings in the country. The government study points out this was principally the result of high income groups adding to their savings. Low income groups had to draw on their savings for living expenses and emergencies.

For the last quarter of 1946, the latest period for which government figures are available, corporation profits were running at an annual rate of more than 27 billion dollars, according to the U. S. Dept. of Commerce.

They Will Represent 301 at the State CIO Convention



Leo Jandreau

President
Andrew
Peterson

William Stewart



Mary McCartin



Stanley Fisher



James Cognetta



Marshall White



Dewey Brashear



Ed Wallingford



Fred Pacelli

These 10 delegates were elected at the Aug. 19 membership meeting to attend the State CIO Convention Sept. 4, 5 and 6, at Saratoga Springs

You Can Be Respectable Too; Learn from Editorial

There is a sure way these days for a labor leader to win respectability and praise from the Big Business press.

The Union-Star on Aug. 16 praised David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, for still favoring no-strike clauses in contracts, despite the Taft-Hartley law. It declared the "Communist element" attacked Dubinsky.

The Union-Star editorial left out two main facts:

Dubinsky decided to go along with the Taft-Hartley board procedures, in direct opposition to the policy of the major CIO and AFL unions.

Dubinsky's union "gets along so well with employers" (to use the Union-Star's words of praise) that within the past month the General Electric workers in the Lowell, Mass., plant threw his union out by a vote of 202 for UE to 94 for the ILGWU. They didn't like the ILGWU's help to the company in putting a speed-up into effect.

Veterans!

The 301 Veterans' Service Center is open from 1 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Friday at the union hall.

CIO on Air

Tune in on the radio program of the Capital District CIO Council at 5:55 every Monday on WTRY.

books and will be working night and day for the employers who wrote it, and whose money and influence accounted for its passage by the Senate and the House of Representatives."

Way Is Cleared To Sue Unions

The Taft-Hartley act opens the door wide to employers to sue unions for supposed violations of contracts, even if the union as a whole or its officers had nothing to do with the supposed violation. But the law does not in any way affect the liability of individual union members. Many misleading rumors have been circulated on this score.

In fact, the law specifies (in Section 301b) that any judgment against a union under the law "shall be enforceable only against the organization as an entity and against its assets, and shall not be enforceable against any individual member or his assets." The purpose is to hamper and destroy the organization.

As for the liability of the individual worker taking part in a violation or supposed violation, it was always true, before the Taft-Hartley law, that he could be sued for any damage he personally had caused the company. That situation is exactly the same as before the Taft-Hartley law was passed.

Dewey's Labor Statement

Governor Dewey's pre-Labor Day statement was called "hypocrisy" by State CIO President Louis Hollander.

Hollander said that for Dewey "suddenly to declare himself in love with organized labor after he was silent during the entire discussion of the Taft-Hartley law is the greatest hypocrisy ever issued by a responsible government official."

When Dewey finally did speak his piece about the Taft-Hartley law, after it was passed, he said there was "nothing detrimental" about the new law.

Repeal Taft-Hartley Law Is '47 Labor Day Slogan

Labor Day statements by national and local labor leaders called for an all-out fight to repeal the Taft-Hartley law and to elect a Congress responsive to the needs of the American people.

Jack Kroll, national CIO-PAC director, said, "PAC has embarked on a great campaign to return the Congress of the United States to the people of the United States."

President Andrew Peterson of Local 301 said, "The defeat of all Congressmen who voted for the Taft-Hartley Act and the outright repeal of the Act itself are the real jobs ahead of us.

"In the meantime, the law is on the

PAC Program

For 1947 Elections in Schenectady and Schenectady County

Adopted by Local 301 UE-CIO Membership Meeting — July 1947

Passage of the Taft-Hartley slave labor bill by a coalition of Republicans and a majority of Democrats in Congress makes it urgent that the people organize to elect genuine representatives of the people, for sound and liberal legislation such as the repeal of the undemocratic Taft-Hartley Act.

PAC was formed by the CIO to fight at the polls for the Roosevelt program of Peace, Jobs and Security. That is its program today. Because of what has happened in Washington since the death of President Roosevelt, it means fighting for a return to government for all the people, workers, farmers, small business and professional people, instead of government in the interest of Big Business.

It means a return to the Roosevelt policy of Big Three unity and unity of the peoples of the world in opposition to blocs. At home it means reversing the unparalleled drive by government and business against labor, reversing the tax laws which place the tax burden on the needy to help the greedy, restoring services to farmers, restoring price control, establishing a real housing program, extending veterans' benefits, as well as social security (such as minimum \$100-a-month pensions and reduction of age limits for pensions, pensions for disability, increase in workmen's compensation benefits, increase in the amount of unemployment insurance benefits and removal of the restrictions on qualifying), medical care and education — in short, all the steps needed to raise the standards of living of the people and lessen the damage of a coming depression.

This program expresses itself at every level of government, from Washington down to the smallest unit.

(Continued Over)