

Jandreau Reelected District President

Business Agent Leo Jandreau of Local 301 was reelected president of UE District 3 last Saturday at the annual district convention at Rochester. Jandreau pulled 251 votes to 55 for Frank Murray of Local 509, Rochester.

Jerold Mooney of Local 501, Buffalo, was reelected secretary-treasurer, defeating Mark Clancy of Local 320 of the GE plant at Syracuse by a vote of 264 to 42. As president and secretary-treasurer of District 3, Jandreau and Mooney will again serve as the district's representatives on the General Executive Board of UE.

Harold Buck of Local 331, Rome, was reelected vice-president without opposition and Charles Rivers of Local 316, Poughkeepsie, was reelected executive secretary without opposition.

William Stewart of 301 was elected as one of the district's three trustees and Willard Mastriani, 301, was elected to the executive board. Local 301's other members of the district council are Phil Cognetta and Joseph Kelly.

By an overwhelming vote the district convention approved actions of the national UE convention at Cleveland and the report on the convention by Rivers, district delegate.

The district convention voted support for the mine and steel strikes and urged united labor backing for these and other strikes. The resolution also called for an end to all raids by one union on another.

Other resolutions called for a return to the foreign policy of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the preservation of civil liberties at home.

Did You Know?

The General Electric Company has been allowed to buy 17 government plants at 60 per cent of their cost. This arrangement represents an indirect subsidy to the company by American taxpayers, including GE workers.

Famous GE Efficiency Baffled by a Blower

Workers under Foreman A. A. Kocis in Building 69 are wondering how many months the company can take to repair or replace a faulty blower.

The fan is in a spray booth. It is so noisy that it gives the group in the area a headache. It splatters paint instead of removing it. The spray painter can work in the booth only in brief stretches because of the conditions. In June the foreman said it would be fixed. Various experts puzzled around it. In August Kocis asked for more time.

In September Shop Steward John Kwiatkowski sent the case to Building 41 as a formal complaint. Frank Schaff of the works manager's office said the facts in the complaint were true. But he said the experts were still trying to "find the rattle." He said a new blower would probably cost about \$200.

The latest word this week was that the experts had concluded a major repair, including a new fan, would be needed. It was hoped the authorities in GE would shortly approve the necessary appropriation.

Some of the operators are suggesting that perhaps there should be an appropriation for diver's helmets.

Profits Tremendous Even During Slump

Even during the business slump in the first half of 1949 profits remained remarkably high. The Journal of Commerce explained recently that employers have been "much more successful in retrenching and cutting unit costs than the pessimists expected."

How manufacturing corporations have been exploiting workers by speed-up and by price increases is shown by the increases in profits per worker. Look at these figures on manufacturing profits before taxes per worker:

1939	\$368
1944	\$512
1947	\$1,183
1948	\$1,246

The annual rate of net profits in the first quarter of 1949 was \$17.2 billion; in the second quarter the annual rate was still \$15.3 billion.

This rate of profit is considerably greater than the \$18.9 billion net profit in 1946 which was one of the important arguments used by labor in getting its largest of the postwar wage increases.

New Shop Stewards Take Oath of Office



These three shop stewards, sworn in at the stewards' meeting Oct. 4, are: left to right, William Cwirko, Building 16; Jesse J. Graham, Bldg. 52, and Richard Bennette, Bldg. 50.

Turbine Stewards Again Meet Male

Discussion of accumulated grievances in the Turbine Division with Works Manager Lewis J. Male continued last week. Emphasis was on current lack of work conditions combined with overtime in some groups, the farming out of work, unfair penalties on some workers, favoritism by foremen, and the speed-up question.

A large elected committee of division shop stewards is handling the complaints. On most of the complaints discussed the previous week, Male said he had been away and had not completed his investigation. He agreed to arrange another meeting shortly.

Election Day Notice

The company has advised Local 301 that on Election Day, Nov. 8, the first shift will close at noon and the second and third shifts will work as usual.

Under the state law any worker who is a qualified voter is entitled to two hours off with pay on Election Day to vote, if he notifies the company at least one day before election that he wants the time-off. GE has informed the union that the paid time-off will be assigned to workers who notify their foremen they want it.

301 Asks Pay Checks On Thursday, Nov. 10

Local 301 is pressing a demand on GE that because Armistice Day, Nov. 11, falls on a Friday pay checks should be issued Thursday that week.

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the works manager, has taken the position that with Election Day in the same week GE would not have the checks ready Thursday, and that the company is now getting checks out faster than it did before. (GE stepped up its pay-day schedule last spring after Local 301 filed a complaint with the State Labor Department.)

The union pointed out to Stevens that the company found it possible to issue checks Thursday when it wanted to send people home recently because of a Friday inventory. As banks will be closed Armistice Day, workers will be inconvenienced seriously unless they are paid Thursday. Stevens said GE has arranged to have Schenectady banks open Monday night, Nov. 14.

The union also pointed out that the state law permits companies to pay by check, instead of cash, but on condition that they make it easy for the checks to be cashed.

40 New UE Plants

UE organized 40 new plants during the past year despite the Taft-Hartley law.

GE COULD EASILY CUT HOURS AND RAISE PAY

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301

U. E. R. & M. W. A.

C. I. O.

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

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C. I. O. CONVENTION EXTRA

UE SEES MURRAY, PROPOSED UNITY, NO-RAIDING

Cleveland, Ohio, October 30. - A proposal to unite the CIO through agreements between its major unions that they would not raid each other was presented to CIO President Philip Murray, this Sunday afternoon by a committee of the general executive board of UE.

The committee presented copies of the proposed agreement, fully signed by the UE general officers, to Murray and urged him to sign on behalf of the national CIO and the Steelworkers. A similar agreement is being sent to the Auto workers.

Murray admitted the truth of UE's charges of raiding and disruption by other CIO unions, but his reply consisted of a long red-baiting speech. He refused to discuss UE proposals to unite CIO against the current employer attacks. He refused to say whether or not he would sign the proposed no-raiding agreement.

The entire course of the meeting indicated that the CIO leadership is hoping to break up the UE and set up a puppet union headed by the Cerey clique.

Representing UE in the meeting were President Albert J. Fitzgerald, Secretary-Treasurer Julius Emspak, Director of Organization James J. Matles, and General Vice-Presidents Leo Jandreau, Schenectady; James Price, Philadelphia; Paul Seymour, Boston; James MacLeish, Newark, N.J.; Stanley Loney, Pittsburgh; and Ernest DeMaio, Chicago.

The proposed no-raiding agreement would provide that where UE has a contract with an employer, no aid would be given to any union seeking to raid. The agreement would be similar in that respect to the agreement recently entered into by the CIO Auto workers and the International Association of Machinists, which is independent. The agreement proposed by UE would go further and pledge UE to devote all its energies to advancing the four objectives of the CIO stated in its constitution, as follows:

"First, to bring about effective organization of the working men and women of America, regardless of race, creed, color or nationality. Second, to extend the benefits of collective bargaining to the workers of America through powerful industrial unions of the CIO, capable of dealing with modern aggregates of industry and finance. Third, to maintain determined adherence to obligations and responsibilities under collective bargaining and wage agreements, and fourth, to secure legislation, safeguarding the economic security and social welfare of the workers of America."

The tone to be expected of the convention was set forth in the summary of Murray's annual report, released to the newspapers for publication tomorrow morning. In the past years, the emphasis in this report has been on organization and bargaining. The release to the papers for tomorrow centers mainly on red-baiting.

The CIO release quotes Murray as calling those union leaders who reject top dictation "Communist union leaders". The release does not discuss policy differences, but complains that some union leaders "disagree" with present CIO policy, and that they demonstrate "contempt and hostility" for those policies.

The Murray report complains of "carping, unjustified criticism of the United Steelworkers and its leadership" by so-called left wing spokesmen.

The report expresses approval for "the legislative advances made by the 81st Congress."

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