

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301 - - - U. E. R. & M. W. A.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

January 4, 1950

## UE PROPOSES IMMEDIATE LABOR BOARD ELECTION

The following statement was issued Tuesday evening, January 3, by Leo Jandreau, with the unanimous approval of the 301 executive board:

"UE Local 301 urges that a consent election be held immediately by the Taft-Hartley Board in the Schenectady plant of GE. We propose this because GE is taking advantage of the disruption spread by the Carey 'Imitation UE' to disregard the contract and block the settlement of grievances, as well as to encourage the Carey company union agents. While there is no excuse for this attitude on GE's part under the contract, we feel that a speedy election will effectively prevent any further use of the representation issue to confuse the picture here. We have no doubt of the outcome of such an election. In view of the claims put forth by the 'Imitation UE' here, there can be no excuse for their refusing to consent. The details should be easy to arrange. We are notifying the Taft-Hartley Board, the company, and the 'Imitation UE' of our proposal."

### UE CALLS FOR PROMPT NATIONAL VOTE IN 3 BIGGEST COMPANIES

The national UE, at a Taft-Hartley Board hearing in Pittsburgh Tuesday also issued a challenge to the board, to the 'Imitation UE', and GE, Westinghouse, and General Motors Electrical Division, to hold a speedy consent election on the same day in all plants of the three companies, as soon as the Taft-Hartley Board can make the necessary arrangements:

The UE statement declared:

"General Electric, Westinghouse and other large companies are attempting to split off sections of the UE membership into a company union... The companies are eager to take advantage of growing national unemployment to go back to the days when they could abuse and exploit their employees, cut pay and lay off or fire workers at will without regard to seniority.

"For this purpose the corporations have made a deal with the officials of CIO to provide them with a company union in the electrical industry.

"GE, Westinghouse and other corporations have filed election petitions with the Taft-Hartley Board to make it unnecessary for their company union to produce evidence of membership to get on Taft-Hartley ballots.

"The Taft-Hartley Board and its Counsel, Robert Denham, have joined in the conspiracy of companies and company unionists to split union organization in the industry. They have held secret meetings against UE.

"The companies are using this situation to violate binding, valid, legal collective bargaining contracts... The companies do this knowing that they will not be called to account by their creature, the Taft-Hartley Board."

The UE statement pointed out that more than a month ago the UE proposed a consent election to be held March 15, and that the Taft-Hartley Board and 'Imitation UE' had refused to meet for that purpose. UE then issued its challenge to hold an election as quickly as it can be arranged.

The statement continues:

"We issue this challenge to the companies, the company union 'IUE' and the Taft-Hartley Board to give the membership of UE the opportunity through their votes to smash the conspiracy against them."

uopwa-local 70

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301 - - - U. E. R. & M. W. A.

Vol. 7, No. 52

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

January 6, 1950

## Stewards Vote Full Aid to Turbine Fight

### Immediate T-H Vote Urged by Local 301

BULLETIN—Following the demand by UE for immediate elections, the Taft-Hartley Board has called a conference for 2 p. m. today (Friday) in Baltimore of representatives of UE, the 'Imitation UE', and GE, Westinghouse and the General Motors Electrical Division.

Local 301 this week notified the Taft-Hartley Board, the General Electric Company and the 'Imitation UE' that 301 wants an immediate consent election at the Schenectady plant.

The election proposal, recommended by the 301 Executive Board, was unanimously approved by the 301 shop stewards' meeting Tuesday.

The day after the 301 announcement Supreme Court Justice John Alexander of Schenectady invited representatives of 301, GE and the 'Imitation UE' to meet the next day (yesterday) at his chambers to discuss the question of arranging a consent election.

In a brief filed in a court action now before Judge Alexander, John (Continued on Page 2)

### UE Wins Big Vote Over Carey Outfit

UE soundly trounced the 'Imitation UE' Dec. 29 by a vote of 147 to 14 in a National Labor Relations Board election at the Stupakoff Ceramic Company at Latrobe, Pa., in the first direct test between UE and the Carey rump outfit.

The Carey agents used terrific pressure to try to win at Latrobe.

The Steelworkers sent two carloads of organizers to help the 'Imitation UE'. Latrobe is not far from Pittsburgh, national headquarters of the steel union. Thousands of dollars were spent on red-baiting blasts against UE on the radio and in full-page newspaper advertisements. The only Latrobe newspaper went all-out to support the 'Imitation UE'.

Stanley Loney, president of UE District 6, said the results of the election "show that neither employers or Carey's 'Imitation UE' are going to catch very much on their fishing expedition."

### Check-off Talks

Local 301 and GE were negotiating again on a possible check-off form when this week's EU News went to press Wednesday.

### Call on 301 Membership to Back Action Against Pay Cuts

GE's wage-cutting move in the Turbine Division, which caused a virtually complete walk-out in Building 273 last week, was apparently being held in suspense as this paper went to press Wednesday.

The company refused to withdraw the notices of reduced AER's and timing rates issued last

Top GE management on Wednesday asked that the Turbine wage cut case, which had been moved to the national level, be discussed again locally. George Pfeif of top management told Leo Jandreau that there was some misunderstanding. A grievance meeting is being arranged for next week.

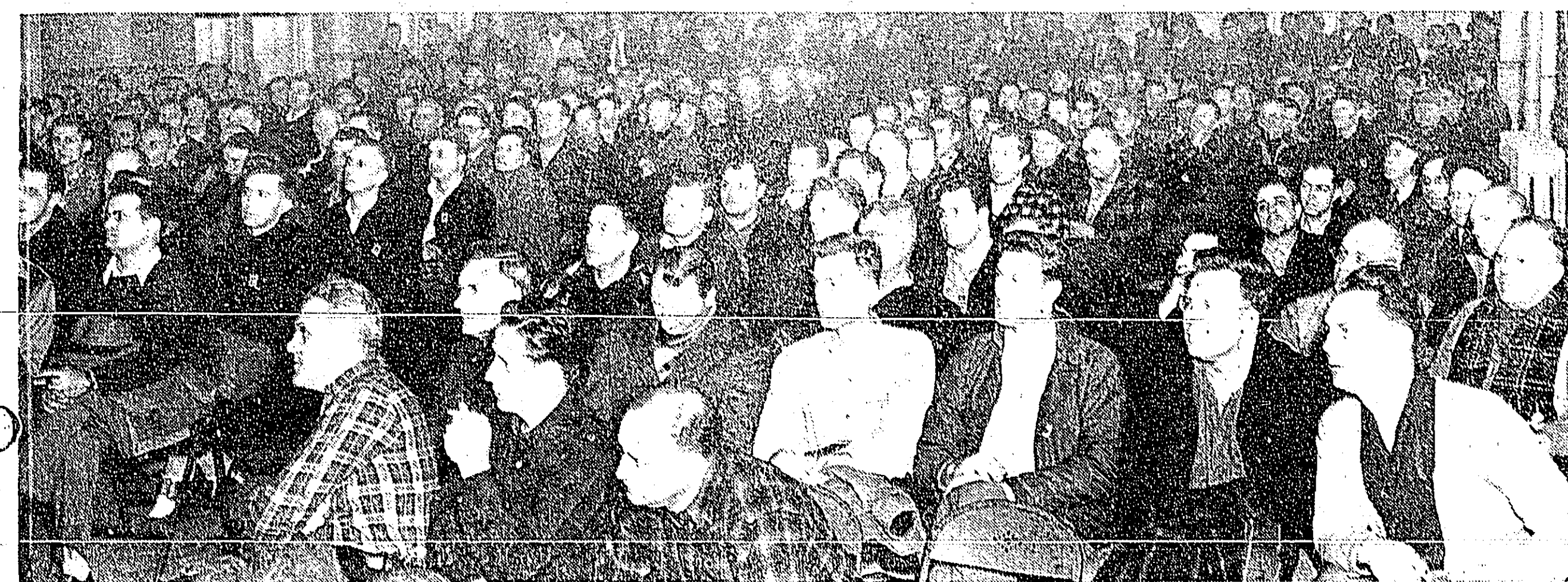
week, but it did not bring out jobs with prices based on the reduced rates. It appeared that the company was trying to figure out how it could put the cuts into effect without bringing a showdown with

the Turbine workers. A spirited and determined meeting of Turbine division workers following the walk-out Thursday of last week voted unanimously for prompt action by the whole division membership if the cuts are actually put into effect.

A program prepared by a 22-man Turbine committee was adopted unanimously by the meeting. It called on the individual worker to refuse to do any work at a price figured at a reduced rate. If a worker is sent home as a result, his whole group will go home too. Thereupon the whole division will be called promptly to a special meeting during working hours to decide on further action. The time of the meeting will be set by the committee.

The shop stewards' meeting Tuesday unanimously backed the Turbine workers' program and also approved an Executive Board recommendation calling on the general membership to support

(Continued on Page 2)



At this special meeting of the Turbine membership, which brought out virtually all of Building 273 Thursday afternoon, Dec. 29, the group unanimously voted support for recommendations of a special 22-man Turbine committee for joint action against reductions in job rates.



## Taft-Hartley Can Be Repealed Now

In the second session of the 81st Congress there are three dangers.

1. The danger that Congress will fail to act. This appears to be the fate planned for Taft-Hartley repeal, civil rights legislation, federal aid to education, national health legislation and veterans' 52-20 unemployment protection.

2. The danger that the laws passed will be inadequate and full of loopholes defeating the peoples' interests. This occurred last session in legislation on wages and hours, housing and rent.

3. The danger of Congressional action against the people, such as the passage of the anti-civil rights Mundt bill, activities of the Un-American Activities Committee and passage of legislation protecting special interests.

The real issue is whether or not the so-called liberals and friends of labor will actually make a vigorous fight for the enactment of progressive legislation.

President Truman stated that Taft-Hartley repeal was at the top of his legislative list for Congress. But unfortunately top CIO and AFL officials have said repeal won't be possible in 1950 and Congressional leaders are not planning to make a fight for repeal.

Practically speaking, Taft-Hartley CAN be repealed now. In the House of Representatives the vote on Taft-Hartley (the Wood bill) was 217 for T-H and 203 against T-H. Only eight votes need to be changed. Only five votes are needed in the Senate to wipe out Taft-Hartley. These changes can be brought about.

### Great Negotiators!

The Carey-CIO rump outfit negotiated a contract at the Van Norman company at Springfield, Mass., which provides for no wage increases or contract improvements in 1949 or 1950. But the contract institutes a new time study system to meet management's demand for "greater efficiency (speedup), less wasted effort and better understanding of production aims."

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SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301

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## For a Happy New Year



### Immediate T-H Vote Urged by Local 301

(Continued from Page 1)

Braun, attorney for the Carey outfit in Schenectady, expressed willingness on the part of the "Imitation UE" to hold a consent election within 20 days. GE claims it is "neutral", though it has been giving open aid to the Carey agents. In its petition to the T-H Board for an election the company said its only interest is to know what union to deal with.

The statement on the election, adopted by the shop stewards, charged that "GE is taking advantage of the disruption spread by the Carey 'Imitation UE' to disregard the contract and block settlement of grievances, as well as to encourage the Carey company union agents." A speedy election, the statement pointed out, "will effectively prevent any further use of the representation issue to confuse the picture here."

In view of the claims the "Imitation UE" have put forth in Schenectady, the stewards declared, there can be no excuse for the Carey group to refuse to consent.

The stewards also unanimously approved a national UE statement, issued Tuesday at a T-H hearing at Pittsburgh, demanding that a speedy consent election be

### Stewards Ask Support For Turbine Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

any further action taken by the Turbine workers in carrying out this program.

The walk-out brought work in Building 273 to a complete stop, except in a few isolated spots. The membership packed the union hall to overflowing and many hundreds went home. The meeting applauded vigorously Leo Jandreau's call for unity against wage cuts.

Jandreau pointed out that the cuts in rates on the boring mills ran as high as 22.5 cents an hour on the AER, amounting to 25 cents and more on actual earnings. He pointed out that the cuts now affect the boring mill groups and some other machines, but that if (GE can get away with this, the wage-cutting plan will hit everybody. Only recently an attempt was made to downgrade tool crib attendants, he said.

The reason why GE feels it can try wage cuts is the same reason why it served notice of termination of contract April 1, Jandreau declared. The reason is that disunity has developed in the shop in the last twelve months.

"The company is behind this thing," Jandreau said. "It is trying to bring in a company union set-up. It hopes to destroy our working conditions. We need unity now. Let's forget our differences."

### Who Said That?

"Let's all be careful that we do not play the bosses' game by falling for the red scare. No union man worthy of the name will play the bosses' game. Some may do so through ignorance but those who peddle the red scare and know what they are doing are dangerous enemies of the union."

Which one of the following men made the above statement?  
(a) Walter P. Reuther, President of the United Auto Workers, CIO.

(b) Albert J. Fitzgerald, UE president.

(c) Maurice Tobin, U. S. Secretary of Labor.

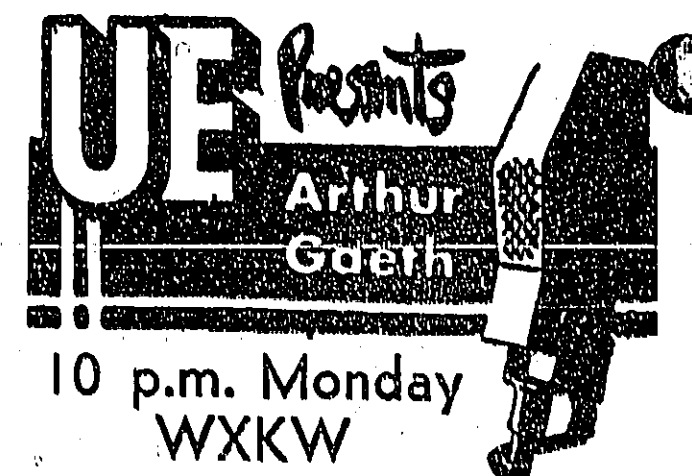
Turn to page 3 to see who made the above statement.

### Did You Know?

UE contracts provide time-and-one-half pay for work on Saturdays and double time for Sundays.

The CIO Steelworkers' contracts with U. S. Steel, Bethlehem and other major companies don't provide time and a half for Saturdays and have no provision for any double time at all.

held on the same day at all plants of GE, Westinghouse and the General Motors Electrical Division.



10 p.m. Monday  
WXXW

### A Strange Victory!

## To Get Pension at 74 Under Carey Contract

Believe it or not, the "Imitation UE" considers it an "epoch-making victory" for a worker to stay on the job until he is 74 years old in order to get a pension.

The Dec. 19 "IUE-CIO News," national Carey company union paper, gave the biggest play to the picture of a 68-year-old cleaner at Philco in Philadelphia who is "highly pleased" because under Carey's "pension victory" he can get "a hundred a month pension when I finally quit" after 6 more years to complete 25 years' service. (The \$100-a-month includes all federal social security, which will probably be close to \$100 under the bill which passed the House of Representatives last year).

The company union minds who run the "Imitation UE" paper evidently don't understand that most workers would think this was a strange "victory", especially since it was tied to giving up any raises for 1949 and 1950.

### Typical Carey Deal

This deal is typical of the whole company union history of Philco Local 101, Carey's home local. The leadership never allowed the membership to be in touch with the national UE. The local members do not get copies of their contract.

Philco and RCA are the two leading companies in the radio industry. But the RCA locals have worked together and with the national UE office. The difference between Carey's company union and a real union shows in the results.

Philco raises have tagged along behind those at RCA. RCA raises since the war total 47½ cents. Those at Philco total 42 cents. Rates at RCA are substantially higher, job for job. The RCA minimum hiring rate is \$1.005. That at Philco is .875. The difference is greater in the higher grades.

The RCA contract provides for the same kind of piece work earnings protection on change of method as in the GE contract. The Philco contract provides that "standards continue as heretofore pending any recheck up or down," and "the union will fully cooper-

1½ Cent Strike Settlement

UE action by RCA workers won a national contract. The Carey leadership has prevented any joint action by Local 101 with the other Philco locals or with the RCA group. Last May Carey got Local 101 out on strike. A week later

### Wilson's Appointment Would Be Unnecessary

Newspapers recently reported that Charles E. Wilson, president of General Electric, may be appointed by President Truman to succeed David Lilienthal as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Even without such an appointment, however, the AEC has been doing plenty of favors for GE. The AEC entered into a conspiracy with GE to allow the company to violate its contract with UE by refusing to recognize the union as representing workers on atomic projects. The flimsy "security" pretext was used as the basis for this illegal cracking down on the rights of the workers.

The AEC made GE joint dictator over all the business firms near the plutonium plant at Hanford, Wash. Firms seeking to lease land near the plant had to sign agreements to abide by rules GE or the Commission might establish.

The Big Business magazine "Fortune" pointed out the advantage GE is receiving over competitors in being able to train men in atomic work at government expense. And GE is estimated to be making over \$11 million a year gross profit on sales of equipment at atomic plants.

Though the AEC has particularly smeared UE and other unions which did not join the Truman hand-wagon, it has refused to enter into any genuine collective bargaining with any union.

### Here's the Answer

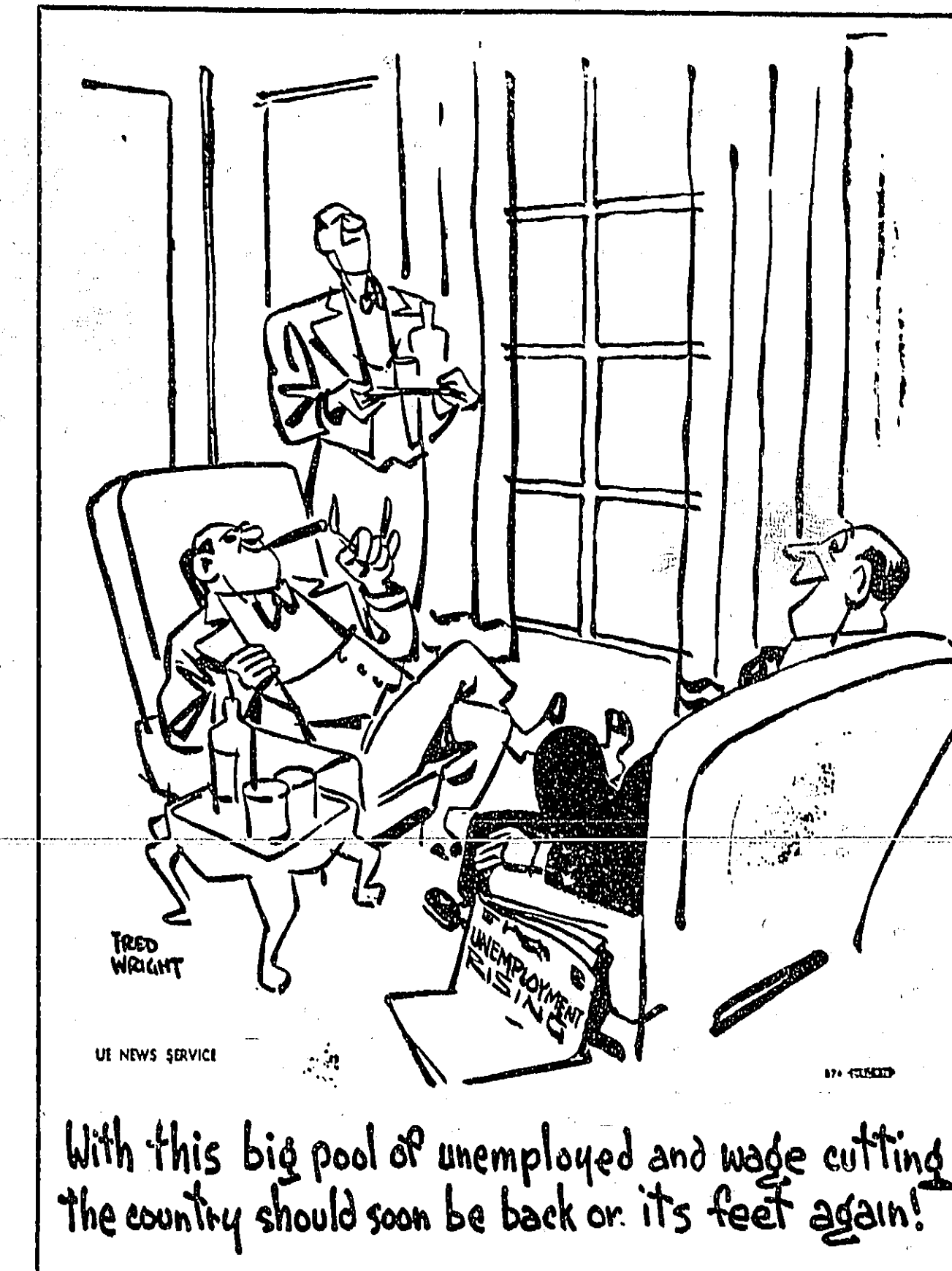
The quotation on page 2, warning workers against "falling for the red scare", was a statement once made by Walter P. Reuther, president of the Auto Workers.

When they concentrated on organizing the unorganized and winning wage increases the auto union and all the CIO used to be red-baited. Now Reuther is a "labor statesman", doing a job for the Truman Administration. He's a leader in red-baiting UE.

### Installation Jan. 17

Officers and Executive Board members of Local 301 for 1950 will be sworn in at the membership meeting Tuesday, Jan. 17, at the union hall. The second shift meeting will be at 12:45 a.m., after the close of Monday night's second shift. First and third shift members will meet at 7:30 p.m.

WEAR YOUR UNION BUTTON.



### Riesel to be Sued by UE District 4

UE District 4 is preparing to sue Victor Riesel for the libelous newspaper article he wrote about the UE camp, Sky Lake, in Dutchess County. He implied the camp was the personal property of District 4 officers. Riesel writes for the Daily Mirror and his anti-labor column appears in many other papers including the Schenectady Union-Star.

The District 4 Council and Executive Board bought the property in 1947 for a low-cost camp site. It was purchased through a trust fund established by Board and Council action, the same way that a trusteeship or corporation is set up to buy a union headquarters. The union itself is not then liable

for losses or damage suits. The board of trustees, elected by the District Council, operates under rules of the New York State Supreme Court. Riesel could easily have checked the fact that the deeds filed in the county clerk's office record the property as belonging to the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Health and Recreation Fund,—not to individuals.

An original bank loan of \$70,000 at 1 percent interest was made in 1917. The camp has been open for only three summers and there have been extensive construction and improvement costs, but by Aug. 1, 1949, the original loan had been reduced by \$37,750.

They went back with a 1½-cent package settlement which seriously hurt the negotiations by the RCA and other Philco locals. It developed the strike was just a build-up for the anti-UE conference held by the Carey forces in Dayton, Ohio, May 7.

The Carey people evidently think workers will accept anything as "an epoch-making victory." They forget that other UE workers have had experience with something other than a Carey company union.





## \$5,012 Awarded Injured Worker

A workmen's compensation referee has awarded \$5,012 to Vincenzo Martineno, brick layer, against the General Electric Company for injuries to both hands incurred through handling bricks. The claim was pressed by the Local 301 attorney, Marshall Perlin.

Other awards made recently included:

\$1,952 to Harold Smith, Building 18 lathe operator, for injuries to his left hand in an accident Apr. 8. Money paid for lost time is to be deducted from the amount.

\$1,138.20 to Anthony Sharre, Bldg. 60 crane follower, for injuries to his left leg Aug. 19, 1948. Money awarded for lost time is to be deducted.

\$915 to Michael Kulchinsky, Bldg. 57 sand mixer, whose right hand was injured in June, 1944.

\$800 to Henry Borkowski, whose left thumb was injured last Feb. 15 when he was molding cones in Bldg. 29.

\$576 to Henry Weaver, Bldg. crane follower, for a finger injury suffered Jan. 5, 1949.

\$420 to Mary Williams, punch press operator, for injuries to her left thumb Oct. 20, 1947.

\$400 to John McCadden, Bldg. 260 exhaust operator, for a facial scar resulting from an accident last Feb. 14.

\$288 to Thomas Di Carlo, Bldg.

28 assembler, for a finger injury Mar. 22.

\$265 to Dominick Messere, Bldg. 16 crane follower, for a finger injury suffered Jan. 17, 1949.

\$250 to Joseph Urban, Bldg. 57 chipper, for a facial scar resulting from an accident Mar. 4.

\$216 to Lawrence King, Bldg. 52 chipper and grinder, for a finger injury Mar. 9.

\$200 to Ralph Coloney, Bldg. 16 assembler's helper, for a facial scar resulting from an accident in November, 1948.

\$160 to Arthur Shave, Bldg. 85 machine repair, for a finger injury May 26.

\$105 to Bronyslaw Baltazar, Bldg. 52 tinsmith, for a finger injury May 18, 1948.

\$100 to Michael J. Riggi, Bldg. 79 varnish maker, for a facial scar resulting from an accident Apr. 18.

## Carey Boys Sensitive About Company Union

It's becoming so obvious to people that the "Imitation UE" is a company union that the Carey boys have to deny the charge in their own newspapers.

The newspaper of which Frederick M. Kelley, a leader in the Carey outfit, is editor at the Lynn GE plant ran the following headline on a page 1 story recently:

"TUE-CIO No Company Union, Electric Employers Warned"

As Shakespeare once said, "Me-thinks the lady doth protest too much."

## Introducing the New Trustees of Local 301



Joseph G. Whitbeck



Floyd Thomas



Frank J. D'Amico

## Elmira GE Workers Elect Pro-UE Slate

In a clear-cut victory over Carey followers, a slate of officers who are staunch supporters of UE was elected last week by the membership of Local 310 at the GE plant at Elmira.

Carey agents at Elmira stayed inside the union in an effort to take over the offices in the annual election. The candidates they ran identified themselves as backing the "Imitation UE" and the CIO against UE.

The "Imitation UE" was so anxious to win the election that they sent Frank Fiorillo and Martin Stanton of Schenectady, and John Dillon of Long Island to stage a high pressure campaign in Elmira.

## Stewards Elect Board Members Next Week

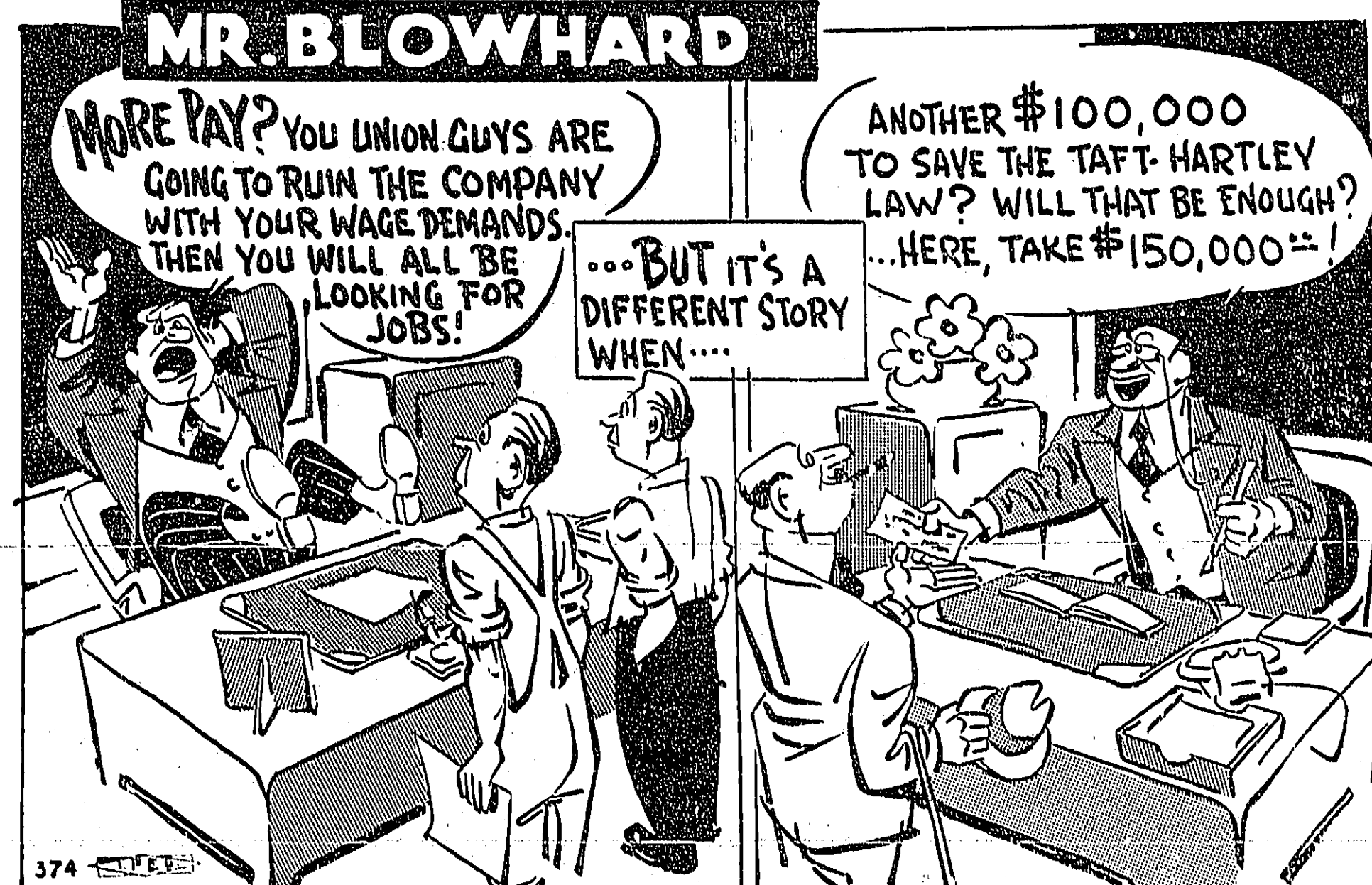
Notices from the 301 Election Committee were to be sent yesterday to all shop stewards informing them of the election of Executive Board members scheduled for next week.

The newly elected shop stewards at their meeting Tuesday unanimously approved a recommendation of the Executive Board for changes in the setting up of sections for representation on the Board. Revisions were based on changes of the distribution of workers in the past year. Under the new plan Building 273 becomes two sections.

The stewards also unanimously approved the Board's recommendation that where there are large groups on second or third shifts, the Board member concerned should appoint a shop chairman for those shifts.

About 300 stewards were sworn in Tuesday night or at the second shift stewards' meeting Tuesday afternoon. For the convenience of those unable to be present Tuesday or elected later, another meeting for stewards is planned in two parts today (Friday) at the union hall, for the sole purpose of their taking the oath of office. The meeting for second shift stewards will be at 2 p.m. and for first shift stewards, 4:15 p.m. Third shift stewards may attend either session.

By membership decision nobody can officially become a steward until he takes the oath to support and defend UE. Until a steward is sworn in, his name cannot be sent to Building 41 for recognition and he is not eligible to vote for Executive Board members.



## 301 Demands T-H Board Call an Immediate Election

January 6, 1950

# EXTRA

## "Imitation UE" Runs Out on NLRB Vote Offer

In open court before Supreme Court Justice John Alexander yesterday, the "Imitation UE" turned tail and ran out on its ballyhooed offer to have a Labor Board election determine who represents the Schenectady GE workers.

The Carey boys' local attorneys, Braun and Scaccia, had stated in a formal brief given Judge Alexander, in the case involving union funds, that they wanted "a speedy election" to settle the issue, and that they offered "through this court to request the NLRB to hold a consent election of the employees at the GE Plant, Schenectady, N. Y., within twenty days."

Attorneys for all sides, including GE, were invited to court by Judge Alexander, after Local 301 had publicly urged a consent election immediately.

Leon Novak and Marshall Perlin, attorneys for 301, came into court with a short written agreement to a consent election to be held within 10 days. Novak signed it in front of the judge.

Dante Scaccia, one of the "Imitation UE" attorneys, refused to sign the agreement. He said he would sign only if Local 301 would agree that if his outfit won the election in Schenectady, the Carey boys could take over the entire GE contract all over the country.

The demand was so ridiculous that it was obvious to all in the courtroom that it was a suddenly-invented excuse to avoid an election. Novak pointed out that obviously an election in Schenectady could not decide the contract in 92 plants. Also, that the law would determine what would happen to the contract.

Judge Alexander asked Scaccia why he did not agree to hold an election now and clear up some of the important issues at least, and consider national problems later.

Scaccia, badly flustered, just refused to sign.

Novak pointed out to the court that it was now clear that the Carey group was insincere in its statements, and that their brief deserved no consideration.

In arguing for the consent election, Novak pointed out that GE had agreed, by its petition to the NLRB, to an election in any one plant alone. GE was represented in court by a lawyer, but he said nothing.

At one point Scaccia tried to wriggle off the spot by saying there was a pending NLRB discussion of an election on a national basis. Evidently he referred to the conference scheduled by the NLRB today as the result of UE's challenge to the NLRB to hold an election the same day in the three major chains under UE contract. So far the "Imitation UE" has opposed that proposal. In any event, that would not prevent a local consent election right now.

The truth is that UE has asked the Carey boys to put up or shut up. The claim of the "Imitation UE" company union to represent GE workers has been thoroughly exploded.