

# This is How They Line Up on Voting Machine

1 PRESIDENT Vote for 1	2 VICE-PRESIDENT Vote for 1	3 RECORDING SECRETARY Vote for 1	4 ASST RECORDING SECRETARY Vote for 1	5 TREASURER Vote for 1	6 CHIEF SHOP STEWARD Vote for 1	7 BUSINESS AGENT Vote for 1	8 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Vote for 1	9 GUIDE Vote for 1	10 TRUSTEE	11 TRUSTEE Vote for 3	12 TRUSTEE
					ARTHUR DIESNER						
	DEWEY BRASHEAR				JOSEPH ALOIS				NICKOLAS FIORITTI	JULIUS WEISMAN	
JOHN GREEN	JOSEPH KELLY	RUDY RISSLAND	ANTOINETTE RESTINA	LARRY GEB0	WILLIAM Christman		OWEN B. PHILLIPS		HAROLD SIMPSON	MILES MOON	WILLIAM McCALL
JAMES COGNETTA	ROY SCHAFER		FRANK D'AMICO	HELEN QUIRINI	WILLIAM Mastrianni	LEO JANDREAU	JOSEPH Saccocio	MARIO BAGNATO	WILLIAM GARRISON	JOSEPH WITBECK	EDWARD LU BERDA
	MARVIN RUMRILL										
					HENRY KAMINSKI						

## Take It From Here . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Lynn, Mass.—Piece work prices in Turbine which have been in effect for as long as six years have been placed on the chopping block by GE top management with cuts in take home pay amounting to \$5 and \$20 a week. Each worker is told by IUE-CIO to do the best he can!

Washington, D. C.—Reports of the Wage Stabilization Board show that the wage freeze, supported by CIO and AFL officials, has cost American wage earners four billion dollars which they would have otherwise received under free collective bargaining.

## Chipper Gets Compensation

Patsy Campione is a chipper in Bldg. 273. On July 5, 1950, a hot chip entered his left ear and resulted in an injury for which he was treated by two doctors.

Leon Novak, the UE 301 lawyer, filed a claim in Campione's behalf because Campione complained that he could not hear very well after he was discharged by the doctors.

One of the doctors testified in court when Campione's case came up. He said that it was true that Campione had suffered an accident to his ear and could not hear very well. But, he declared, the accident was not the cause of Campione's loss of hearing.

The union's lawyer, representing the worker, cross-examined the

doctor. If Campione's loss of hearing did not come from the injury left by the hot chip, where did it come from? The doctor answered that Patsy had lost some of his hearing because of the noise which affected his eardrums in the years he was employed as a chipper.

With this testimony in the record, the union attorney filed a new claim against GE for compensation, reasoning that whether the loss of hearing came from the hot chip or the noise in the plant, it was clear that the company was responsible.

Shortly after the new claim was filed, Campione won his case and was awarded the sum of \$2,784 in addition to payment of all his doctor's bills.

## NOTICE

All members having paid December dues either by the check-off or in cash can vote.

**ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS**  
UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA  
Schenectady GE Local 301 UE

Published by the Editorial Com.  
Ass't Recording Secretary—Frank D'Amico  
Treasurer—Henry Kaminski  
Vice-President—Joseph Mangano  
Recording Secretary—John P. Green  
President—William Kelly  
Chief Shop Steward—James Cognetta  
Business Agent—Leo Jandreau  
301 LIBERTY ST. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

# SEASON'S GREETINGS



# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA — LOCAL 301, UE

Vol. 9 — No. 31

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

Friday, December 21, 1951

## Take It From Here . . .

Elmira, N. Y.—Seven hundred production and maintenance workers in the GE foundry are on strike to force action on grievances. Local 310 UE has announced that the men would not return to work until assured that their grievances would be settled to their satisfaction.

Cleveland, Ohio—GE locals in the state have opened a campaign against General Electric's runaway shops. GE has been moving lamp and glass production into Ohio's low-wage areas, the UE locals charge, as well as into the South "where Jim Crow" helps keep wages "still further down." Union conditions and higher wages in all areas is the answer, the locals say.

Washington, D. C.—President Truman by administrative order has set up an FEPC group but without police powers, i.e. without teeth.

Fort Wayne, Ind.—Thirty Midwest UE locals in a telegram to President Truman called for a Korean armistice by Christmas.

Cleveland, Ohio—The District Council of the CIO auto workers said in a resolution that the wage freeze "imposes hardships and burdens out of all proportion on men and women who produce goods and commodities of our economy."

## No Newspaper—

Due to the holidays the Electrical Union News will not be published on December 28 and January 4. The next issue will be published on January 11.

# OUTLOOK FOR '52

## Wilson Says Eat Margarine; Labor Wants Better Diet

Most financial journals are predicting a boom year for '52. But what's "boom" for big business may be a bang in the jaw for labor. The high prices and profits, the frozen wages and "poor man's" taxes, predicted by these journals may be good for big business but not for labor. A big factor in the big boys'

## Women Ready Xmas Greeting For That Male

The women in Bldg. 81, hit by pre-Christmas layoffs and work rotation, are getting together on a Christmas card to Works Manager Lewis J. Male which is to read, "hoping you have a merry Christmas—we won't!"

If Mr. Male will look at Docket #2702, Industrial Control, he will see that the union warned in July

that hiring was leading to firing. This shows up Male's plea in the Schenectady Works News that management "did not foresee" the layoffs a month ago.

It also provides the necessary grains of salt for taking his touching message that "it is doubly unfortunate that the layoffs had to come at this time."

## 'Twas the Day Before Xmas And Control Gets the Day Off!

The day before Christmas, day of the hallowed eve, is a day off for all in Industrial Control — without pay! The entire division is to be shut down and the workers who get the unpaid day off will thus get a chance to do more last-minute Yuletide shopping with less money. GE stockholders will undoubtedly find "a little something more" in their stockings as a result of the brutal savings.

The approximately 1000 men and women who were laid off in the motor and generator division on December 10 are due to return on

calculations is government spending which they estimate will rise from the current rate of 63 billion dollars a year to 84.9 billion a year in the second half of 1952.

Guess who pays . . . The big business viewpoint, unfortunately shared by government, is that working people have too much money to spend. They will try to correct this by taxing away a bigger part of the pay check, giving less change across the counter and by fighting wage increases.

This will lead to trouble. The rank and file of the country's labor unions need more, want more and intend to get more. UE has a wage reopener in March and a recommendation from the UE Local 301 Executive Board to take a strike vote before negotiations open up.

Philip D. Reed, chairman of the General Electric Board of Directors fears "serious economic and political disturbances" if Defense Mobilizer Wilson's program of "more guns and much less butter" goes into effect. Mindful of the fact that the major part of GE production is non-military, Reed foresees "inflation and misery" unless the arma-

(Continued on Page 3)

# TRUCKERS TAKE UE SETTLEMENT

The six-weeks strike of the truck drivers at the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory was settled this week with the AFL drivers getting a 3.58 percent wage increase.

Teamster officials rejected the IUE-CIO escalator clause in favor of the UE wage agreement which adds cost-of-living money to the general wage increase without tying the members into an up and down escalator.

The agreement was never submitted to the truck drivers for ratification. Settlement of the strike recalls the long strike of the AFL Steamfitters in the Schenectady Works last year. Their strike was settled without any rate increase, the cause of the strike.

IAM-AFL in the Knolls was also unable to get any increase for its members.

The lesson of these adventures is that the company benefits from the division of its employees into splinter groups. The way to get benefits for all is for all to unite again in UE.

# IUE LEADER DUMPED BY MEMBERSHIP

IUE-CIO members at the Colonial Radio Corp., in Buffalo, last week dumped Jerry Mooney, President of the local for the last ten years.

Last year at this time, Mooney and his hand-picked executive board stampeded the Colonial workers out of UE with red-baiting and lies in order to cover up their sellouts and dictatorship.

The picture did not change for Colonial workers though they voted to go IUE-CIO. Mooney continued to sell out the workers' grievances. Only this time, he went further. He became a strike breaker and attempted to start a back to work movement of striking UE Markel workers. In the midst of their strike he called an open meeting of Markel workers to join the IUE-CIO.

Mooney also joined the company in a speed up scheme by having groups of workers compete against each other to see which group could put out the most and best work with Mooney and the Company giving turkeys as prizes for the winning teams.

# Blame For Layoffs Laid To GE Greed

It is the company's business to foresee work shortages, Leo Jandreau, UE 301 Business Agent declared today in answer to a claim by Works Manager Male that management "did not foresee" the possibility of layoffs a month ago.

"It's darn poor management that operates on a day to day basis," Jandreau observed. He recalled that several years ago it was the practice for management and the union to confer on the employment outlook in an attempt to prevent layoffs and increase job security.

"We were able," he continued, "to plot the job picture as far as two years ahead and to adopt policies corresponding to the facts."

### Workers Stockpiled

These meetings were discontinued by management, Jandreau said. "The company philosophy seems to be, 'the less the workers know the better for management.'" GE, he said, stockpiles workers as well as products.

The Business Agent stated emphatically that it is absolutely important for families to be able to plan ahead. "The only way our people can safely begin repairs on their homes, higher education for their children, trade-ins on their automobiles is by having reasonable assurance of steady employment and income.

"Everyone is figuring close these days. They have to. A sudden layoff and they are jolted into debt."

### Families Can't Plan

Family planning, Jandreau emphasized, begins in the factory. "If management can't plan or refuses to reveal such plans as affect employment and earnings," he said, "families can't plan with any certainty."

Current layoffs he said, could have been foreseen by management. "Reckless hiring at the gates, speed-up in the plant, out of town expansion, nation-wide warnings

that civilian production and purchasing power were falling showed us where the tide was going.

"At the first sign of layoffs we demanded that the company stop hiring. In asking for substantial wage increases we had in mind that dwindling purchasing power was at the bottom of much unemployment. We argued against speed up and even had a work stoppage in Turbine and other departments over the issue.

### Greed On Top

"But as usual company greed triumphed over discretion. And greed was compounded by faulty inventories and generally poor local management."

Jandreau said that he did not know whether there was any idea of setting up motor production in other parts of the country.

He indicated that the resumption of regular planning meetings with the company would be welcomed by the union.

# Women's Rates Under Review

Two people are wiring panels across the aisle from each other. One is working on a 15" by 15" panel, the other on 15" by 16". The operations are identical but because one worker is a woman and the other a man that inch difference means 38 cents an hour less for the woman.

This is a typical case of discrimination which a committee from Industrial Control will take up with management in the near future.

The committee, now being formed, will ask for a better break-down of jobs. It will point out that many jobs are given a low price only because the company arbitrarily rates them as "women's work" and women's work, by company definition, is any job women can do.

### Rating on Skill

The committee's position will be that jobs should be rated not according to sex but by skill.

This principle, firmly applied throughout the plant, would benefit male workers since many men's

jobs are not rated strictly according to job content.

In low-rating female employees, GE is, of course, out to make a super-profit. It stands to reason that if women can be made to do skilled work at below the rate for common labor, it means more money in the company's pockets. In GE lamp plants, for example, where the highest women's rate is lower than the sweeper's, although the women are the skilled production employees, the company realizes a profit 60 percent greater than on other GE products.

At International Harvester, where the union won a single rate structure based on skill, the wages of all Harvester workers were substantially increased. The concept of "women's work" must go. It's a chiselling device and there are all too many instances of men doing "women's jobs" at women's rates.

The demand that pay differentials based on sex be done away with is being pushed by UE throughout the GE and Westinghouse chains.

# LAYOFFS HIT LYNN MOTOR

Layoffs in the motor departments last week hit GE Lynn. About 1000 are out of work and three and four day work weeks are scheduled through February. Layoffs have also hit the foundry, now on a short work week.

In Lynn where IUE-CIO is the bargaining agent, there is no attempt to cushion the shock of the pre-Christmas layoffs. There is no work rotation and no effort by IUE to find work in other departments. Seniority, already weakened by a year and a half of IUE, is disregarded.

The layoffs were kept a secret from all but those who received their notices. The IUE newspaper said nothing; the IUE leadership contented itself with asking that there be no new hiring after UE 201 told the workers what was happening.

Many Lynn workers are speculating that the layoffs are connected with job moving which has repeatedly hit them in the past year. Most believe that the situation will not get much better after the first of the year.

# UE Local 301 Officers For '52

Officers and stewards of UE Local 301 for 1952 will be installed at membership meeting on January 7. James Cognition, an assembler in Welded Products, will take over the presidency from William J. Kelly, a layout man in Turbine. Kelly, who served ably in the presidency for two years, continues at his old job with GE.

A member of the local since 1937, the new president has been a Steward since 1945, an Executive Board Member since 1946, a Chief Steward for the last two years. He began as a welder in Welded Products and has been in the same department for 28 continuous years. He is married and has four sons; one 23, another 15 and twins, age 11.

### Charter Member

The new Chief Steward, William Mastrianni, is a charter member of UE Local 301. He became a steward immediately after the union was certified. He was elected steward in the refrigerator department, transmitter, sheet metal, Industrial Control. He was Chief Steward from 1945 to 1948 and is in charge of the picket line in 1946 strike. He was first elected to the Executive Board in 1941. Mastrianni has two children, a girl 15 years old and a boy of 12.

The voting on shop stewards which began on Tuesday may not be completed for all departments until after the first of the year, it was announced today by the Election Committee. Workers on rotation or laid off are to be given a chance to vote before the final tally is completed.



JAMES COGNETTA President-elect



WILLIAM J. KELLY President



LEO JANDREAU Re-elected Without Opposition

### ELECTED

- JAMES COGNETTA, President.
- ROY SCHAFFER, Vice-President.
- RUDY RISSLAND, Recording Secretary.
- FRANK D'AMICO, Ass't Recording Secretary.
- HELEN QUIRINI, Treasurer.
- WILLIAM MASTRIANNI, Chief Shop Steward.
- LEO JANDREAU, Business Agent.
- JOSEPH SACCOGIO, Sergeant-at-Arms.
- MARIO BAGNATO, Guide.
- WILLIAM GARRISON, Trustee.
- JOSEPH WITBECK, Trustee.
- EDWARD LUBERDA, Trustee.

### THE VOTE

President	
James Cognition	1,116
John Green	923
Snyder	1
Vice-President	
Roy Schaffer	921
Joseph Kelly	838
Dewey Brashear	229
Marvin Rumrill	136
Recording Secretary	
Rudy Rissland	1,002
William Stewart	67
D. Conti	1
Ass't Recording Secretary	
Frank D'Amico	1,099
Antoinette Restina	789
William Stewart	1
Treasurer	
Helen Quirini	957
Larry Gebo	898
Henry Kaminski	174
William Stewart	3
Chief Shop Steward	
William Mastrianni	1,088
William Christman	695
Joseph Alois	224
Arthur Diesner	74
Business Agent	
Leo Jandreau	1,557
Edmund Mahar	1
Sergeant-at-Arms	
Joseph Saccocio	1,030
Owen B. Phillips	892
Guide	
Mario Bagnato	1,287
Trustees	
Joseph Witbeck	1,189
William Garrison	1,083
Edward Lubberda	1,060
William McCall	850
Harold Simpson	796
Miles Moon	761
Nicholas Fioritti	138
Julius Weisman	132

# INJURED WORKERS WIN ON APPEALS

Antonio Angiloine, a crane follower, was thrown a distance of several feet and injured his back, knee and scalp. That was in July, 1947.

Angiloine's application for compensation was denied when a doctor testified that the crane follower's disability was due, to an earlier condition.

The UE 301 attorney, Leon Novak, took the case on appeal. He engaged another doctor who was able to show that the accident had aggravated Angiloine's old condition. The decision of the compensation board was reversed this week and Angiloine is to receive compensation retroactive to the date of his accident.

Joseph Jobarro's is another case in which an appeal by the union's attorney reversed a decision to the benefit of an injured GE worker. While hanging a sign on October 24, 1950, Tobarro wrenched his back.

Fearful that if the injury became known to the company he would somehow be penalized. Tobarro said nothing and continued working. He did not, for the same reason, tell the company doctor the true cause of the accident when he was treated. His claim for compensation, under the circumstances was denied.

On appeal, Mr. Novak was able to produce a witness to the accident and proof that the company had received oral notice of the accident through the hospital. Decision reversed, compensation granted.

Needless to say, neither worker could have brought his case through the complicated appeals procedure to a successful conclusion without legal counsel.

# Outlook for '52 is Poor Without Fight

(Continued from Page 1) ments program is cut down and spread over a period of years.

Wilson, a former GE president is stumping the country telling the country to get ready to eat margarine, as though many of us aren't eating margarine now. After the first of the year, he told the National Press Club, manufacturers will get 50 percent of their usual amounts of steel, copper and aluminum for non-military production. His top aide, Manly Fleischmann, added that there would be additional metal cutbacks in

April, May and June, which indicates that layoffs in GE will get worse after the first of the year instead of better.

What stands out sharply is that big business looks upon a full-fledged war economy as a bonanza for business — not for labor. It will use war scares as a club against labor to speed 'em up, refuse wage increases, get rid of collective bargaining and wherever they can, unions.

A Wall Street spokesman, Walter Lippman, stated the case in the New York Herald Tribune. He said that turning

the U. S. into a military state would require "the prolonged conscription of young men and the levying of a terrible pall upon their education and their hopes. It would require an austerity of life by our people which they have never approached in this century. It would require an iron regimentation of all their affairs and a harsh intolerance of dissent."

The UE position in all this is that workers are entitled to a decent life, that taxes should not be cut below a minimum decent standard of liv-

ing, that prices should be deflated, that collective bargaining should be restored, that the Bill of Rights should prevail, that wars should not be arranged with the idea that killing is good business.

The UE position is not limited to UE; it is shared by the vast majority of workers. It is the only way to avert depression and death in foreign lands. Certainly, it clashes with the big business concept. The outcome of that clash will determine the conditions under which we labor and live in 1952.



## GE Pay Offer Still Before Wage Board

As we enter the Christmas season, the wage increase offered by General Electric has as yet not been approved by the Wage Stabilization Board.

It will be recalled that UE urged GE to give its employees cost of living raises which do not require WSB approval in time for the holidays.

The company turned this down together with the \$40 Christmas bonus which other companies are giving without having to go to the

wage freeze board. GE has also refused to follow the leads of other companies which made the day before Christmas and the day before New Year paid holidays, more Christmas cheer not requiring WSB sanction.

In its propaganda against the strike vote, local management implied that acceptance of its wage terms would avert a "dreary Christmas." Is there anything more "dreary" than a company promise?

The UE STEWARD, published by the national UE, reported that some UE contracts provide for holiday pay during temporary layoffs and sickness. This does not apply in GE, Westinghouse and other plants. One day must be worked in a holiday week to receive holiday pay.

### INSURANCE AGENTS NEED YOUR HELP

The striking Prudential insurance agents who are picketing in snow and cold for a guaranteed weekly wage of \$55 and a contract have asked that union, men and women and their friends write to Insurance Superintendent, 312 State St., Albany, to help bring the company around.

The second largest insurance company in the country, Prudential can well afford to meet the insurance agents' modest demands.

Letters from Prudential policyholders are especially effective, the AFL union told UE Local 301.

So, let's get on the ball-point and write!!

## CIO Chief Barred From Making Deal

Thoroughly aroused steelworkers who have set a New Year's strike date to back up their wage and fringe demands barred Philip Murray, CIO president, from making any deal with the government to call off the strike.

Prodded by the rank and file, the union's 170-man wage policy board made the unprecedented announcement that Murray who is president of the United Steelworkers cannot go to the government behind its back.

A principal supporter of the wage freeze, Murray has admitted that unless there is a contract by the New Year's Eve deadline the men who make steel will close down the mills. He confessed, according to the New York Times of December 18, that union locals in all parts of the country have "demanded that the issue of accepting or rejecting any government peace formula be left to a special convention and that there be no work without a contract."

### 30c Package

In slamming the door against an industry dictated deal with the government, the steelworkers have virtually assured a shutdown of steel if their demands are not met to their satisfaction.

Wage and fringe demands are estimated to total 30 cents an hour, 15 cents across-the-board, 3½ cents for wage inequities and the rest in benefits.

Murray who is desperately seeking a formula which will appease

the steelworkers while leaving the rest of the nation's workers in the grip of the wage freeze has accused Charles E. Wilson and other government leaders of "deciding the steelworkers' case before the merits of our position have been presented."

### Challenge to Freeze

Many of the steelworkers' demands are an attempt to catch up with such contracts as have been won by UE; the demands coming at this time however are shaking the wage freeze to its foundations. Steelworkers have traditionally taken cents per hour wage increases in place of fringe benefits and have an hourly wage rate of \$1.92.

Ironically, the wage freeze board derives its power from the support given to it by Murray, CIO secretary and IUE president James Carey, AFL president William Green. If the labor members of the board were to take a walk, the board could not function, all observers agree.

The union's fringe demands include eight paid holidays, time and a half and double time for Saturdays and Sundays as such, a guaranteed annual wage, a six to nine cents an hour increase in night shift bonus, four week vacation after 15 years, elimination of geographical differentials.

A victory in steel at the opening of the year with UE and United Mine Workers wage demands coming up in March could well set a new wage pattern for 1952.

## IUE Gives Up Seniority After Buffalo Strike

IUE-CIO Westinghouse workers in Buffalo failed to get back plant-wide seniority — which they had under UE — after a 12-week strike.

The strike settlement, announced on December 17, allows the company to layoff, upgrade or downgrade workers according to occupational seniority. There are an estimated 60 occupational units in the plant and workers have seniority rights only within their own unit.

Westinghouse workers were striking against the seniority clause in the national contract negotiated by IUE-CIO last year. This agreement wrecked plant-wide seniority, replacing it with occupational seniority. The workers found that they had virtually no

job security under the contract which they were forced to take without a vote.

An infamous provision which the strikers were able to abolish allowed the company to give 3-day layoffs or "cooling off" periods to workers it wanted to discipline!

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Merry  
Christmas



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