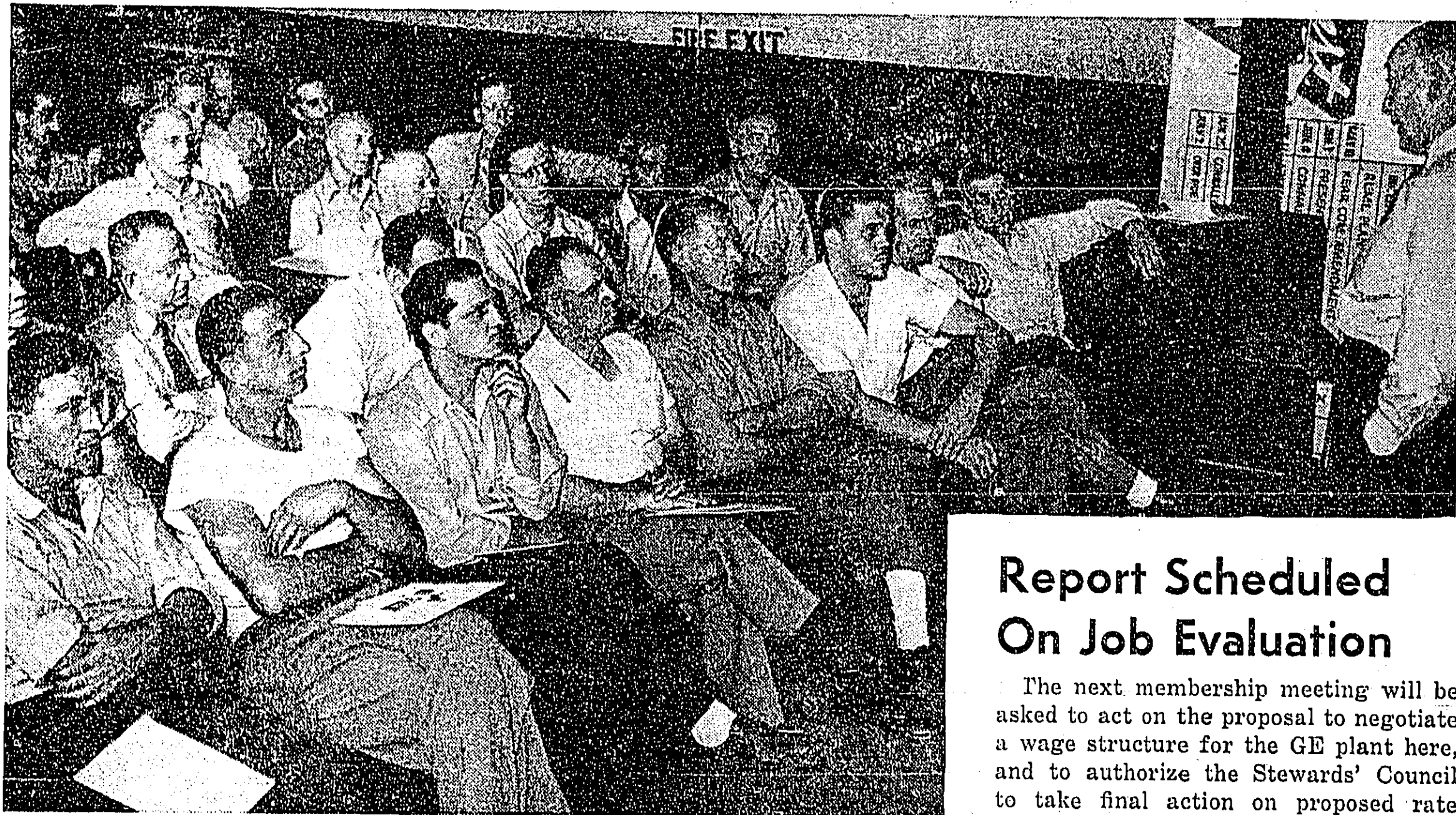


Stewards Hear Talk on PAC by President Peterson



President Peterson, at right, speaking on PAC at a meeting last week for shop stewards who missed the recent series of special meetings for stewards because of vacations. There was plenty of discussion of contract provisions, grievance and shop problems too, but interest was especially lively in political action.

Request Conference Of All GE Locals

(Continued from Page 1)

"We call upon the membership to stand firm and united against all attacks by the company.

"We pledge that we shall do our duty as stewards, firmly and without fear, in meeting these company attacks.

"We urge the national officers to call a special conference of GE locals to plan concerted action to meet the company's drive against its workers."

On the third day of a record-breaking heat wave, Aug. 15, approximately 100 girls at the East Boston plant went to the women's lounge because they were unable to endure the heat and were not allowed to go home. Unsuccessful efforts were made by the company to drive the girls back to their machines.

Local management that day gave discharge notices to 44 of the girls and warning notices to about 60 others. After emergency conferences on local and national levels the company withdrew

the discharge notices in 41 cases, substituting final warning notices. The company insisted on firing three of the girls "as an example" and placed the other 41 in danger of instant discharge.

Temperature Was 97

The temperature was 97 Aug. 15 in Boston and the humidity 94. The plant is a particularly hot place to work because of gas flames used in sealing the lamps. The company had closed the plant Aug. 14 at noon because of unbearable heat and closed again Aug. 15 after these employees had been forced to knock off work. Many other Boston plants were shut down during the three days and state offices were closed by proclamation of the governor.

Last April foremen of the East Boston Lamp plant were called together for a company meeting, at which management representatives told them to bear down on the East Boston workers. The foremen were instructed to be free with warning notices and management announced it intended to run the lamp works with an iron hand.

MAKE YOUR SHOP 100% UNION

Report Scheduled On Job Evaluation

The next membership meeting will be asked to act on the proposal to negotiate a wage structure for the GE plant here, and to authorize the Stewards' Council to take final action on proposed rate changes before submission of the proposal to the company.

The Stewards' Council Tuesday approved the preliminary report of the Executive Board's job evaluation committee. The committee has been studying claims submitted by stewards as to job inequities.

The committee's proposal calls for negotiating the placement of all jobs, both day work and piece work, in labor grades based on the relative value of the job. It also would establish a fixed relationship between a piece work anticipated earning rate and the job rate, with the AER to be 15% above the job rate. The proposal also calls for a method of progression to the job rate, both for piece workers and day workers, with the job rate to become a minimum guarantee for piece workers.

Increased AERs would of course mean higher prices, except that where earnings already are substantially above the new AER, this new AER would be used mainly to protect future earnings and prices rather than raise existing prices.

The entire list of jobs and the labor grade proposed for each one will be given to every steward before the stewards meet to act on the proposal.

Victor Fasche, assistant to the business agent, assigned to work with the board committee, reported for the committee at the stewards' meeting.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

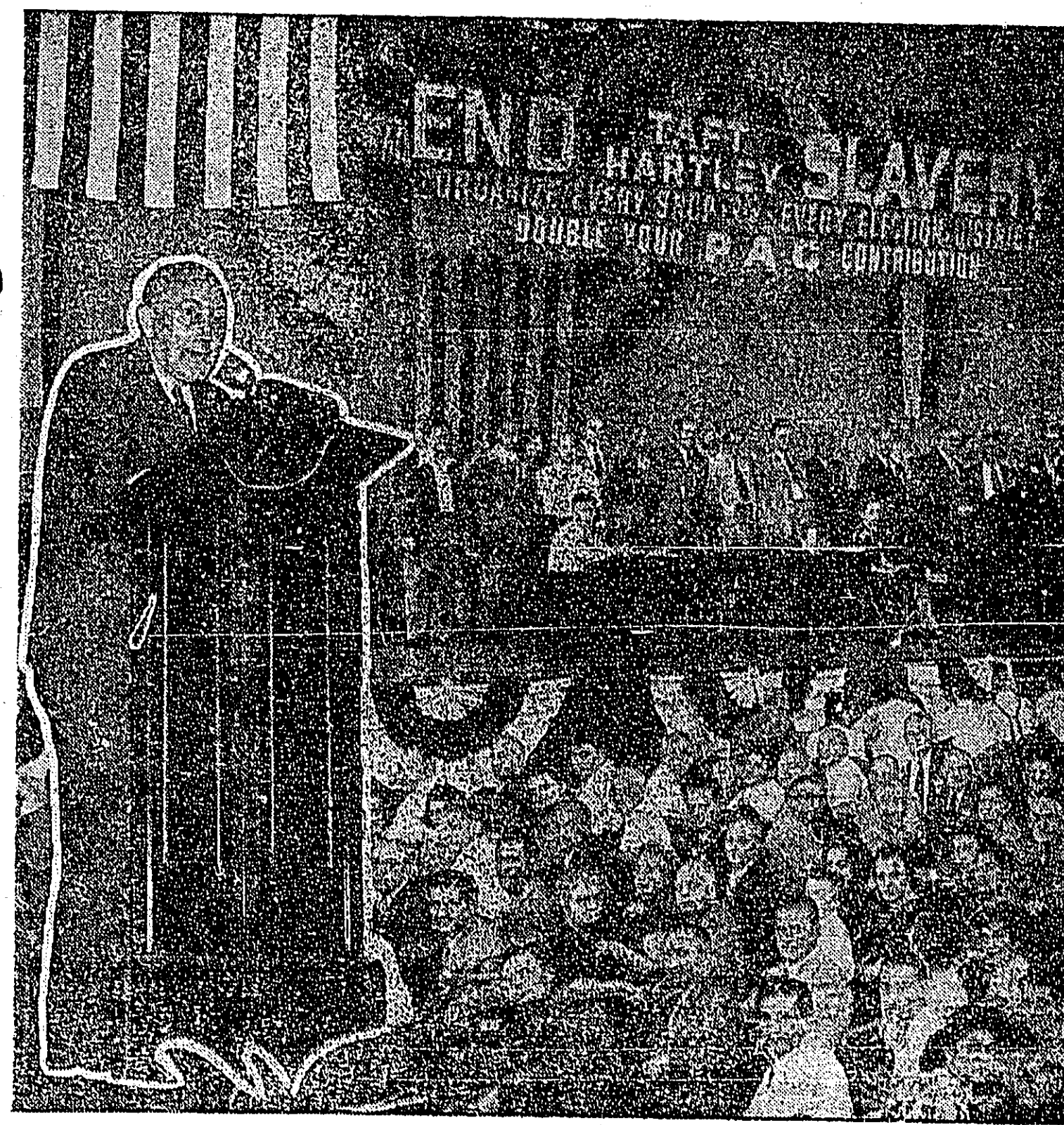
THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301 - - - U. E. R. & M. W. A. - - - C. I. O.

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SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

September 12, 1947

CIO In Action at Saratoga Springs GE Tries Hard To Sell Labor Law to Workers



President Andrew Peterson of Local 301 is shown at the left addressing the State CIO convention at Saratoga Springs last week on the Taft-Hartley law and the CIO-PAC program. He will discuss some of the points covered by his speech at the 301 membership meeting Tuesday. The background picture shows a section of the convention. See page 4 for convention story.

Important Business Slated for Tuesday Membership Meeting at Local 301 Hall

The September membership meeting of Local 301 will be at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday at the union hall.

Delegates to the State CIO convention will report.

The meeting will be asked to act on the proposal to negotiate a wage structure for the GE plant here and to authorize the Stewards' Council to take final action on proposed rate changes before submission of the proposal to

the company. A report will be made on the work of the Executive Board's job evaluation committee.

A trial committee of nine members will be elected to conduct the trial of three members of the union charged with planning a campaign to discredit Local 301.

In addition there will be the usual order of business.

The General Electric Co. is making a strenuous effort to sell the Taft-Hartley act to GE workers through articles and editorials in the Works News.

Business Agent Leo Jandreau called attention to the GE propaganda campaign in a letter he sent to all shop stewards this week. In particular, he exposed the company's use of an anonymous article, "How Employees Benefit from the New Labor Law," reprinted from the American Machinist. The company distributed this article in leaflet form, inserted in the Aug. 22 Works News.

Employers' Magazine

Although the American Machinist is a well known employers' organ, GE tried to mislead people by stating the article "is the work of an authority not connected with any special group."

Jandreau's letter listed a few facts to show just how "impartial" the American Machinist is.

The American Machinist is one of 27 business magazines published by the McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., Inc.

Its principal income comes from advertisements of big manufacturers. GE runs full page advertisements in almost every issue of the American Machinist and other McGraw-Hill electrical magazines.

The president and chairman of the board of McGraw-Hill is a director at large of the National Association of Manufacturers. The NAM pushed through the Taft-Hartley bill.

The Works News recently reprinted an (Continued on Page 4)

PAC Dollars

PAC collections turned in this week included \$25 which Shop Steward Gerald Di Sorbo received from workers in Bldg. 68 and \$25 collected by Shop Steward R. Pigeon, Bldg. 60. John Rej, steward in Bldg. 42, was runner-up with \$24.

Child Care Centers Destroyed by Dewey

Schenectady's five remaining nursery centers are to close Sept. 28 for lack of funds. The Pleasant Valley, Liberty St. and Lincoln school-age centers and the Franklin nursery center were shut down Sept. 5.

The chief responsibility for killing the child care program rests with Governor Dewey. He refused to give even a small portion of his huge state surplus to aid the working mothers who need a safe place to leave their children. The Dewey administration ruled that state funds should be cut off as of Oct. 1.

Faced with the loss of this state aid, the city and the county decided they couldn't afford to continue the projects. But school principals and officials of the child care centers report they have been flooded with appeals from parents for assistance. Parents asked that at least hot lunch programs be kept.

The Schenectady Gazette recently ran an editorial about the fight in New York City to keep alive the child care centers there, despite loss of state funds. Apparently the Gazette red-baits even child care centers. Its editorial said the "principal supporters" of the move to retain the child care centers in New York are "the New York State Communist party, the state committee of the American Labor party and the Child Care Center Parents association." The editorial contained a crack about the Communist "party line" in regard to child care centers.

Restaurant Is Placed On AFL Unfair List

Local 583, AFL Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Union, has asked Local 301 to join in not patronizing the Airport Inn, Campbell Ave., Troy, until it signs a contract with the union.

The restaurant has been placed on the unfair list by the Troy Federation of Labor because of its failure to reach an agreement with the union.

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Really, Mr. Smith, You Should Be a Little Careful What You Tell the Republican Women's Club as Facts

William D. Smith, Schenectady attorney, got some easy newspaper publicity by attacking Local 301 and praising the Taft-Hartley law Tuesday night in a speech before the Woman's Republican club.

President Andrew Peterson of Local 301 thinks the club members ought to have a few of Smith's false statements pointed out to them.

"Local 301 was founded by GE workers, represents GE workers and is controlled by its members, not by any outside organization," Peterson said.

"I'm surprised that Smith would claim that the Taft-Hartley law is favorable to labor. Both AFL and CIO unions are making the repeal of this law and the defeat of the congressmen who voted for it their main order of business."

(Smith has been representative of an "independent" organization at Maqua Co.)

"What's Bill Smith trying to do? Kid the Republican women?" Peterson asked. "He talks about making 'unions as well as companies' negotiate in good faith."

"Everyone in Schenectady should know by now that UE negotiated its contract with GE in good faith and has been try-

ing for months to get GE to stop violating the contract and to have our grievance cases arbitrated."

"And as for Smith's crack about union finances: The 301 members get a written, monthly financial report, audited by a certified public accountant. The only rooking we ever got financially was from a local lawyer who sent us a bill for \$8,000 for nine weeks work."

Wallace on UE Program

One of the biggest radio events of the week was Henry Wallace's appearance Wednesday night (after this week's issue of EU News went to press) on the Leland Stowe program sponsored by the national UE. Wallace was interviewed on national and world problems by Stowe. Local 301 ran advertisements in both the Schenectady Gazette and Union-Star. The national UE program is at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday on WSNY, WABY and WBCA (FM).

10 New Shop Stewards Pledge They'll Do a Good Job



Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani, back to camera, swears in new stewards at Sept. 2 meeting of the Stewards' Council. Left to right, Charles Buhrmaster, Bldg. 50; Earl Collins, Bldg. 50; Anthony Campriello, Bldg. 52; Wilbur

Haywood, Bldg. 16; Jennie De Cocco, Bldg. 24; James A. Boyle, Bldg. 59; Louis Phillips, Bldg. 52; Earl M. Hampel, Bldg. 60; James B. Roberts, Bldg. 60, and Joseph H. Bartkowski, Bldg. 49.

GE Locals' Session Slated for October

In response to the resolution adopted by the 301 Stewards' Council Sept. 2, national UE officers are planning to call a special conference of GE locals early in October.

This special session to plan concerted action to meet the company drive against its workers will take place after the national UE convention Sept. 22 to 26.

GE still refuses to reinstate three women fired from the East Boston Lamp Plant for stopping work Aug. 15 during a heat wave which made shop conditions intolerable. The company is holding final warning notices over the heads of 41 other women also forced to quit their work because of the heat. The union has demanded that GE live up to its contract and submit the case to arbitration.

The tense relations between Local 301 and GE over company violations of the contract will also be taken up at the national meeting. The company has still refused to install the eight hour day in the Turbine Division, although Turbine workers are standing firm in turning down any over-time work until their demand is met. Schenectady, like other GE plants, has a long list of grievances which GE refuses to arbitrate in spite of the contract clause guaranteeing arbitration.

Tune in on the weekly radio program of the Capital District CIO Council. It's at 5:55 p.m. every Monday over WTRY.

What is PAC?

The policy of PAC is to encourage voters to register and vote. PAC keeps voters informed about what their representatives and government officials are doing. It seeks the election of candidates who back the PAC program.

PAC is good citizenship. A strong PAC prevents any political machine from getting all powerful. It is thoroughly American in promoting free discussion of politics. It brings to light whether a candidate for office is a machine politician or is really trying to do a good job as a public servant.

Printers Won't Sign Contract Under Taft-Hartley System

The AFL International Typographical Union, which has had a closed shop in newspaper and commercial printing plants for 100 years, has adopted a no-contract policy in protest against the Taft-Hartley law. The Taft-Hartley law outlaws the closed shop after July 1, 1948.

The ITU convention at Cleveland recently voted without a dissenting voice that the union will sign no new contract while the Taft-Hartley law is on the books. Instead, the union will present a memorandum stating "conditions of employment" to an employer. If an employer agrees to the terms, the printers will work for him. Otherwise he can try to set his own type!

New Price Cutting Method Brings Protest in Bldg. 89

Something new in price-cutting was tried in Bldg. 89 recently when a piece rate table was put into effect on coil winding to apply to all prices. The new system was installed despite the fact that the group involved found the table unacceptable.

The 11 workers involved claim the new P. R. table will severely cut the prices. When Dewey Brashear, acting shop steward, took up the protest with Foreman A. Thelen he was told the company intends to try out the table for three months. The union has taken up the grievance with the company.

Speedy Action by Steward Wins Holiday Pay for Girl

Recording Secretary Helen Quirini, a steward in Bldg. 81, says the union grievance sessions she has attended in 41 were a big help in handling a Labor Day holiday pay case in her shop.

A girl was sent home Thursday noon, Aug. 28, for lack of work and told by her foreman not to report back until Tuesday, the day after Labor Day. Later the foreman announced she wouldn't get her holiday pay. After Shop Steward Quirini filed a written grievance the decision was reversed.

301 Broadcast

Remember the weekly 301 radio program. It's at 7:15 p.m. every Monday over WSNY.