

LOCAL 301 NEWS

UNE-APL-61

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UNEMPLOYMENT STILL A PROBLEM IN N.Y. STATE

Industrial Commissioner Catherwood reported last week that while employment rose in the State generally, so did unemployment.

The gain, said the Industrial Commissioner, was mostly in the construction and service industries.

Even with the employment gain in May of 5,000 more jobs over the previous month of April this year, the report said that the May 1960 total employment was 56,000 higher than May of 1961.

Unemployment declined in all areas of New York State except in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area and New York City.

Unemployment ranged from 4% in Rochester to 9.1% in Buffalo.

The unemployment rate for the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area for last month was 6.5%. For the previous month (April), it was 6.2%.

"OLD TIMER" HAD FAITH

One of the "old timers", who formerly worked in the Turbine Department and is presently on pension, and apparently is active enough at the age of 76 to get around, was down in the Turbine Dept. the other day talking to his former shop-mates.

According to some of the Turbine boys who talked with him, the old pensioner was disappointed and very upset because one of his few fringe benefits had been discontinued. The story goes something like this:

When he went out on pension, he received the usual farewell hand-shakes from supervision who wished him well and allegedly told him to feel free to visit them at any time, and, particularly, if his glasses needed changing, to bring in the prescription and they, the management, would oblige.

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ANDY PETERSON TO RETIRE

There will be a retirement party for Andy Peterson at the Union Hall on July 22nd, 1961.

Andy, who has been a member of Local 301 since its start, is retiring from the Large Motor & Generator Department with over 42 years of service.

Andy has been serving his fellow workers for all of these 42 years. He was a member of the old Works Council and when Local 301 was formed, he was one of the charter members. He served two terms as President of Local 301. These were difficult terms of office because along with the problems in the shops, there were raids from other unions during this period.

He has been a Shop Steward and a member of the Executive Board of Local 301. He has also served on the Relief and Loan Board as a representative of the shop employees.

Andy's record of service to his fellow employees has been long and varied and we are requesting all of his friends to participate on July 22nd. Tickets can be obtained from your Board Member or Charles Scott at Union Headquarters.

The committee on arrangements for the retirement party is composed of Executive Board Members in Buildings 52, 60 and 66. They are: Jim Cognetta, Chairman; Pat Donato and Billy Mastroiani.

UNION CORRECTS JOB RATE

Rate on La Blond Lathe has been corrected due to the concerted effort of union representatives.

The Union on 4/13/61, filed a grievance with supervision in Bldg. 50, Atomic Motors, protesting the rate which the Company applied on the La Blond Lathe. The grievance stated that due to the skill required and the nature of the work involved, the job rate should be increased from R-19 to R-21.

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"OLD TIMER" HAD FAITH (Cont'd.)

Well, apparently the "old timer" during the eleven years of his retirement, had on a couple of occasions taken advantage of the offer. To his surprise, on the recent visit, when he presented the prescription for a lens change, they informed him that the free service had been discontinued.

The "old timer" wonders if the change in Company policy had any relation to the refusal by Congress last week to grant medical care to the old folks.

UNION CASE RESULTS IN UPGRADE
by Allen E. Townsend

Recently a Shop Steward in the General Engineering Laboratory filed a grievance requesting that a Cl. B Instrument Maker be upgraded to Cl. A due to the fact that he had demonstrated that he had the necessary qualifications to do the higher rated work.

At a 2nd step meeting with Messrs. Masterson, Schaffer, Townsend and Malinowski negotiating for the Union, it soon became evident that management did not agree that this man was ready for an upgrade.

They stated that this man would be reviewed in three months again for upgrade. It was at this point that the union representatives realizing that we were miles apart on this case, proposed that the Company review this man for upgrading in six weeks instead of the three months proposed. This the Company agreed to do.

At the end of the 6-week period the Company was asked for their decision. We were informed that due to the fact that no "A" work had been available, this man was no nearer to upgrade than before. Another 2nd step meeting was then requested. However, the Company came up with a counter proposal to try out this man for one week on a good class of work and then they would make their decision. This proposal was accepted and one week later the Company agreed to upgrade this man at once with an immediate one step increase.

N O T I C E

DUE TO HOLIDAY AND DEPARTMENTS SHUT DOWN FOR VACATION, THE LOCAL 301 NEWS WILL BE CANCELLED ON NEXT FRIDAY, JULY 7TH.

UNION CORRECTS JOB RATE (Cont'd.)

Supervision's reply was that they had reviewed the job and found that the rate of R-19 was proper and that operators would be paid for the work they performed at this rate. Several meetings were held on the 2nd level, including a joint investigation where the services of Pres. Shambo and Chief Shop Steward Mangino were utilized.

The Union negotiators used the Monarch Lathe, R-21, as a basis of comparison. They indicated to the Company that work which was performed on the La Blond Lathe involved the same skills and knowledge as those required on the Monarch Lathe. At a subsequent meeting, held on 6/20/61, management agreed to increase the job rate on the La Blond Lathe from R-19 to R-21. Agreement was also reached whereby the two operators involved will receive retroactive adjustments starting 4/17/61.

In dollars and cents, this means a difference of 22.5 cents an hour which amounts to \$9.00 per week. Based on a 10 week retroactive period, the operators will receive \$90.00 each in back pay.

The successful outcome of this case again points out the importance of seeking out correct facts upon which the Union representatives can base their arguments.

Besides the Union Office, other negotiators were: Shop Stewards Simmons and Pacelli, Board Members Wager and Koral and Coordinator Bill Christman.

WORK ASSIGNMENT CORRECTED

Grievance filed by Shop Steward in Toolroom, Bldg. 89, results in hiring of a Toolmaker and settlement of improper assignment of work.

The Toolmakers in #89 protested the assignment by supervision of Toolmakers work to Toolroom Machine Operators (TRMO's). It involved work on index rings and die sets.

Three meetings at the 2nd level were arranged. Subsequent to the last meeting, the Company officials gave notice to the Union negotiators that they would review the work in question. Upon completion of their investigation, they notified the Union representatives that this was Toolmakers work and that they would upgrade a TRMO, R-21 who was formerly a Toolmaker, R-25, to fill the opening.

Representing the Union were: Steward Varrone, Acting Board Member Nejman, Coordinator Christman and Chairman of the Toolmakers' Committee Joseph Korszun.