

LOCAL-301 NEWS

WEEKLY-AT-1-000

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FIGURES DISCLOSE EMPLOYMENT DROP

Figures show that within the last three years, the number of employees in the Local 301 Bargaining Unit has decreased approximately 20 percent.

In January of 1959, records indicate that there were 11,079 people in our unit. The January 1962 report on employment discloses that 8,773 were gainfully employed. This means that 2306 employees have been laid off and not reengaged, with many of them having lost continuity of service because they were not recalled within the three (3) year period.

G.E. GUARDS' UNION ENDORSES JOHN H. SHAMBO

The G.E. Guards' Union, Local One, at Schenectady Main Plant unanimously resolved at their February membership meetings to support John Shambo in his bid for nomination to the Assembly of the State of New York.

Jerry McGrath, President of the Guards' Union, stated that John Shambo is a gentleman of integrity and a sincere, trustworthy union official who is primarily concerned with the interest and welfare of all the people from Schenectady County.

He is a man dedicated to the principles of democracy and his record proves beyond any question or doubt his interest and concern regarding the well-being of all the people in this area.

NOTICE

MEMBERSHIP-STEWARDS MEETING

Monday, February 19, 1962

2nd shift.....1:30 p.m.
1st & 3rd.....7:30 p.m.

Election of G.E. Conference Board Delegates

Reports of Committees

Regular Order of Business

Union Auditorium
121 Erie Boulevard

The forecast or employment outlook for 1962, while encouraging in some respects, should be viewed with some reservations. To be considered are the unpredictable or unforeseen factors which could tend to alter the present predictions.

Employment in the Bargaining Unit for this year should stabilize itself at approximately the January 1962 figure of 8,773 employees. This figure takes into consideration the attrition factor of 6%, namely resignations, retirements, deaths, etc.

SUPERVISION GOOFED! GAS TURBINE

Three Erectors, R-18, in Gas Turbine received a lack of work. They were placed on a lower rated job, R-17 Sub-assembly. At the same time, several shorter service people were hired in the Erection Gang due to a request for more people.

Shop Stewards Pisano and Pomerleau, noting what had taken place, immediately filed grievances on behalf of the Erectors, requesting that the men be returned to their former jobs and be compensated for loss of earnings while on lower rated jobs. They received no satisfaction at the 1st level. Board Members Di Caterino, DiLorenzo, together with the Shop Stewards represented the Union members at the 2nd step negotiations.

At the 2nd step, they convinced the Company that they had erred in this instance. The Erectors will be paid for loss of earnings and will return to their former jobs.

LEST WE FORGET

The following firms are listed by the Union Label and Service Trades Department of the State of New York as unfair to organized labor and do not deserve consumer support from AFL-CIO union wage earners:

H.I.S. men's sport coats, suits and slacks	O'Sullivan heels
B.V.D. men's shirts	Camel, Winston, Salem, Cavalier Cigarettes
Nelson-Paige men's shirts	Wings shirts
Sandy McDonald shirts	Crown & Heaslight overalls and workclothes
VanRaalte gloves	Seeburg Music Players
Dickies work clothes	McMullen dresses
Superba and Wembly ties	Proctor Electrical Appliances
Haggar slacks	Hickock belts
Weldon Pajamas	

Also, Chambers stoves and Magic Chef ranges, both branded non-union by the Stovemounters International Union and the United Steelworkers.

REMINDER: The Retail Clerks International Association asks all AFL-CIO members to remember that Sears-Roebuck is still branded "Unfair". **DON'T BUY SEARS!**

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

A recent decision of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court has upset a long standing practice of the Workmen's Compensation Board in occupational disease cases. Although not a G.E. case, the decision definitely affects a number of pending cases of G.E. employees and may affect future cases unless the law is changed by the legislature.

The case which the Court decided involved an employee of a plastics company who developed a rash on his hands and body. He went to a doctor who diagnosed the condition as a dermatitis caused by contact with the materials the worker was using in his work. Although he did not lose any time from work, extensive medical treatment was required and a large doctor's bill resulted. The Court, reversing the Compensation Board, said that the employers insurance company was not responsible for any medical expenses incurred until after the worker had lost some time and wages as a result of the condition for which he was treated.

The decision is based upon the language of the compensation law which provides that in occupational disease cases there must be a "date of disablement" before a claim for any benefits can be established. The Compensation Board, in this as in other cases, had held that the date of disablement was the first date on which medical treatment was received, even though the worker lost no time or wages. The Court disagreed and said that the date of disablement must be a day on which the employee actually was prevented from doing his work because of the occupational disease.

We know that there are a number of such cases now pending in the plant. Although the company in the past was paying for medical treatment, we do not know if it will continue to do so. If the company refuses, a worker may find himself obligated to pay a substantial medical bill. Until the law is changed, workers in such a situation should get prompt legal advice to properly protect themselves. Your union can help you in this respect.

BE INFORMED!

ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS

GENERAL ELECTRIC TURBINE DEPARTMENT CUT STANDARD PRICES

Hot Booth Welders 273 WALKED OFF THE JOB. This is the "HOT BOX" of the Turbine Department where all the work is heated to a sizzling 500 degrees.

Price cutting problems started months ago. Grievance was processed. General Electric now claims stoppage illegal. Welders notified they would be penalized two days work. Jandreau is actually the culprit who played "Footsy" with the grievance and didn't process it thru New York. He has said on the Membership floor that he could clear New York in 24 hours. This Kid's stuff of penalties, which only bring hardship on the wife and children,---even though it is petty for a self-declared community-minded Corporation like General Electric---should be levied against Leo Jandreau, who didn't perform his job. However, penalties don't solve any problems.

This may be the beginning of general piecework PRICE CUTTING. A new way of measuring casting defects lowers price almost by one-third. May be by coincidence, it also at the same time makes it impossible for the Welder to check the price. In the past, it has not been unusual for the PRICE TO BE WRONG.

Working conditions in "hot booth" are EXTREME. Heat and the necessity of concentrated effort in welding---EX-RAY welding makes "hot booth" a hazard to welder's health. General Electric used to give Welders one-half hour off the job for every one-half hour worked, because of the harsh working conditions. At a sacrifice of their health, Welders gave this up to make more money on a piecework set-up. Now General Electric wants to take this away.

There is still the old propoganda of too much money turned-in based on the JOB RATES. These job rates are antiques. They were formulated almost of a past age. As a standard of the skill and effort required on a job, they are useless. However, by keeping these fault values, General Electric pays much less on many jobs than is warranted by the required skill.

Thru out the shop, the "SPEED-UP" of the Dayworker to an incentive pace without the piecework money places the pieceworker in a precarious position.

This is a COMMON FIGHT for all workers, dayworkers and pieceworkers against General Electric's concentrated effort of more work-less pay.

The present problems of the Welders concern all WORKERS. Today it is the Welders, tomorrow it may be you. Now is the time to analyze the fast moving changes thru out the shop, the present policies of your Union and, call it selfish if you want, saving your own neck by helping your fellow Worker with his problems on the job.

The "Hot Booth" Welders need your cooperation.

In UNITY THERE IS A BETTER LIFE FOR THE WORKER.