

IV - Farmers

1. Guaranteed price level of 150% of parity.
2. Support all efforts to maintain the family size farmer.
3. Maintain federal-state Milk Marketing Order.
4. Support farmers' co-ops and oppose efforts of National Tax Equality Association to tax co-ops out of existence.
5. Expand existing soil conservation programs.
6. Expand rural electrification program.
7. Expand Farmers' Home Administration.

V - Veterans

1. Federal Bonus.
2. Increase benefits to disabled vets and their dependents.
3. Increase subsistence allowances to student vets and for on-the-job training.
4. Cut to 2% the interest rate for federal loans to vets for homes, businesses and farms.
5. Increase appropriations for Veterans' Administration.

VI - Taxes

1. Raise income tax exemptions to \$3,000 for couples and \$500 for each dependent.
2. Progressively higher taxes beginning with small amount above \$3,000 and approaching 100% tax on net incomes over \$25,000.
3. Reject all forms of sales taxes.
4. Restore excess profits tax on corporations.

VII - Foreign Policy

1. Support universal disarmament to include international control of atomic energy, discontinuance of production of atom bombs and full international inspection.
2. Complete elimination of the cartels and Nazi control of industry which planned and furnished the economic base for Hitler's and Hirohito's military aggressions.
3. Protection of the rights of self-determination and self-government of economically backward and colonial peoples.
4. Relief to war-ravished peoples and post-war rehabilitation with proviso that under no circumstances should food or any other aid be used as a means of coercing free but needy people in the exercise of their rights of independence and self-government or to stir up civil war.

VIII - Housing

1. Large-scale federal low cost housing program sufficient to house all people.
2. Restore priority and price control on home building materials.

IX - Health and Social Security

1. National health law to guarantee that all people shall have dental, medical and hospital care.
2. Raise old age pensions to meet living costs.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

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Top UE Officers Visit Schenectady Chief Officers Of UE Address 301 Stewards

At right, National UE President Albert J. Fitzgerald speaking on the union program to shop stewards of Local 301 and other upstate UE locals at 301 Hall Jan. 14. Seated, left to right, Leo Jandreau, 301 business agent and president of District 3; National Secretary-Treasurer Julius Emspak, a member of 301; James Matles, national director of Organization, and Andrew Peterson, 301 President.



The three top officers of the National UE, who spoke at 301 Hall Jan. 14, urged members to back the approaching contract negotiations with the unity and determination which clinched other UE victories.

President Albert J. Fitzgerald declared that in spite of the Taft-Hartley Law and millions of dollars spent by GE and other companies to try to split the union, "we can win the fight for decent wages and decent living conditions."

"And if we do our job right in 1948, we can see that the people who passed the Taft-Hartley Law are removed from office, and we can put the type of people into office whom we elected in 1932."

Schenectady was the fourth stop of President Fitzgerald, Secretary-Treasurer Julius Emspak and James Matles, national director of organization, on a coast-to-coast trip to key UE locals. Officers and shop stewards of other upstate UE locals and visitors from other CIO unions attended the Schenectady meeting, along with 301 shop stewards from all three shifts.

The nationwide trip, first of its kind in UE history, was made necessary, Fitzgerald explained, because of the tremendous anti-union campaign "by the employers we do business with and the rotten press of this country."

He was applauded vigorously when he said that instead of spending huge sums on comic strips and other anti-union propaganda, companies "would do much better to put this money into the pay (Continued on Page 2)

posed to use hooks and suction cups to reach under the punch. This process would mean still further cutting into the earnings.

Giello might have gone to the back of the machine to adjust the steel sheet. But that would have meant walking around three presses, because of the cluttered-up space, according to fellow-workers. So he reached into the press, and the press tripped accidentally. His forearm was gone.

Staff Appointments Voted by Local 301

On recommendation of the Executive Board, the Local 301 membership meeting Tuesday night voted in favor of the reappointment of Victor Pasche and William Kelly as assistants to Business Agent Leo Jandreau. The names were recommended to the Board by Jandreau.

The membership also approved, on recommendation of the Board, the appointment of Michel Perlin as full-time 301 attorney to handle chiefly workmen's compensation cases for union members free of charge. He will also handle unemployment insurance claims for them and veterans' rights under veterans' legislation, on the same basis.

For several months Perlin has been assisting Leon Novak, attorney, who has been handling such cases for 301 in addition to working for District 3. Novak is now required full-time by District 3 because of the Remington-Rand crisis and other matters, but will be available for special cases for 301.

A graduate of Columbia University
(Continued on Page 2)

Veteran Loses Arm Through G-E Speed-up

Joseph Giello, Purple Heart veteran and father of a 7-month-old girl, lost an arm in a punch press in Bldg. 17 last Friday morning on the third shift.

Local 301 was scheduled to take up with the works management this week the charge by the men in the group that the accident was caused by supervision's insistence on speed and low piece prices instead of safety and fair piece prices.

The job on which Giello was working was changed last October from a hand feed job at \$2.12 per thousand to a suction feed job at \$1.75 per thousand. Grievances filed by Shop Steward Steward Sidney Friedlander are pending now. The group claims that it is impossible for operators to earn the AER at that price, because of punchings slipping and sticking. In order even to come near earning the AER, men have to reach under the punch to straighten out the sheet, or pull it through. Both the last foreman, William Atkinson, and the new one, N. C. Jones, had been shown the operators working in this unsafe manner, but merely said the men were sup-



Wallace, Third Party Discussed at Meeting

The third party presidential candidacy of Henry A. Wallace was discussed at the 301 membership meeting Tuesday night, but on recommendation of the Executive Board action was limited to expressing individual opinions.

Speakers opposing the Wallace candidacy praised Wallace's record and platform, but expressed fear that by running he would insure the election of a reactionary Republican. Wallace supporters argued that there is no difference between the Democrats, under the leadership of President Truman, and the Republicans.

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Staff Appointments

(Continued from Page 1)

Law School, Perlin served four years in the Army Air Force. He was navigator of a B-29 in the Pacific. While a law student he organized for the Hotel and Restaurant Workers, AFL.

Another Board recommendation approved was for the appointment of Emil Radosevich, Army Air Force veteran, as bookkeeper to replace Adam Boss, who has resigned. (See story next week about Boss' plans). Radosevich obtained his bachelor's degree in accounting at the University of St. Louis. He first worked for UE in 1942 and before coming to Schenectady was an organizer at the GE Lamp plant at Memphis, Tenn.

Under the constitution the business agent recommends his assistants subject to approval of the Executive Board and the membership. Jandreau said only two assistants are needed now, and that he was not recommending appointment of Ray Flanigan. Flanigan, who was on leave from GE, has become a turbine inspector in Bldg. 49.

SEE YOUR SHOP IS 100% UE
BUILD THE UNION

Leaders of Engineers Echo G-E on Wages

Leaders of the Schenectady General Electric Engineers Association last week rallied to the support of GE Vice-President L. R. Boulware in his stand against a general wage increase. This action was taken by the Executive Council of the association Jan. 12, and communicated to Boulware in a message from R. C. Buell, president of the engineers' group. There was no indication of discussion by a membership meeting.

This is the outfit which during the 1946 strike, eight days after the company had asked for an injunction against Local 301 pickets, came out with a public statement urging that non-production workers go back to work, and calling on the engineers to "make your voice heard in whatever way you can" on the subject.

The message last week from Buell to Boulware was lavish in praise of Boulware's announcement of "price reduction" on some items. Buell said in part:

"We will attempt to further improve our production and efficiency by eliminating waste time and effort, absenteeism and tardiness.

"We agree with you wholeheartedly in the principle that further general pay increases throughout the country will merely serve to add fuel to the fire of inflation. We feel that increases should be given to those individuals who earn them by greater productivity and value."

National Officers Speak

(Continued from Page 1)

envelopes of their employees".

Fitzgerald said lawmakers had attempted to isolate labor leaders from the rest of the country by the Taft-Hartley provision for signing affidavits. No affidavits on Americanism have been asked of employers, he pointed out.

Unfortunately "the great majority of people holding public office are in there because of money put in by corporations," he declared, "and we can't expect to get a fair deal from them."

The UE president made only one reference to the presidential candidacy of Henry A. Wallace.

"I'm not expressing any opinion now on a third party or the capabilities of any individual to hold the position of president of the United States," he said. "But I am saying that the officers and members of this union will stand up and fight for the principal that any qualified man in this country has the right to run for president without his being called subversive."

GE Likes to Forget \$75,000,000 Profit

GE came out "in pretty good shape" in the matter of profits for 1947, James Matles, UE director of organization, reminded union members at 301 Hall Jan. 14.

He cited the 1947 profits as \$75,000,000, compared with the wartime average of \$49,348,000 and the pre-war 1936-1939 average of \$44,000,000.

Matles pointed out that today GE and other companies don't want to talk profits. They insist on talking about making "only 6 1/2 cents on every sales dollar." But in 1947 they wanted to talk about profits, he explained, because they claimed their profits had fallen in 1946.

"But GE got a \$28,000,000 kickback from the government to make up for its 1946 'losses'," he said.

"For every five dollars paid out in wages," Matles declared, "two dollars will go to profits. Industry can raise wages 13 per cent and reduce prices 10 per cent and make a profit higher than 1939."

Matles said that GE workers are \$13.03 short a week now, compared with their take-home pay in 1945, in spite of pay raises, but the company has doubled its 1945 profits.

UE faces two big fights this year, he pointed out, the first of them at the conference table where the issue will be very simple, "You have the money and we need some of it." The second fight will be in the November elections.

"If we take a licking this April we will be too demoralized to fight in November," he warned.

"In 1920 the labor movement caved in and busted up. It took 13 years to come back. The employers couldn't bust us up in 1946 or in 1947. They'll try in 1948. Your negotiating committee will be just as strong as the backing they get back home."

Must Continue to Search For Food Center Quarters

Local 301 has been given an extension of a few weeks, instead of having to move the union Food Center Feb. 1 from 1027 State St.

No new location has been found yet, so it's still important for members to make suggestions about possible places. Most of the buildings suggested so far are too small. The dimensions ought to be at least 50 by 100 feet.

Last week union members bought \$9,753.59 worth of food and supplies at the Food Center: \$1,861.75 Thursday; \$4,118.11 Friday and \$3,773.73 Saturday.

\$20.75 Equals \$12.75

A U. S. war bond bought in December, 1941, for \$18.75 and cashed today is worth only \$12.45, including interest.

The bond-holder will receive \$20.75 in cash if he turns in the bond now, but the \$20.75 will buy only as much food and clothing as \$12.75 would have bought in 1941.

If the government failed to pay the actual cash for these bonds, even Herbert Hoover would be shocked. It's just as shocking that the cash will buy so little.

District Backs Jandreau Statement on Wallace

The District 3 Council of UE Jan. 15 at a meeting in Albany unanimously approved a statement by Leo Jandreau on Henry A. Wallace and the third party and adopted the statement as its own official policy.

The Jandreau statement, printed in last week's EU News, criticized the State CIO Executive Board for taking action against the third party candidacy of Wallace, "before there was time for discussion of this very important question by the member unions." The statement also declared "there is no reason to attack a man like Henry Wallace", and pointed out his devotion to the program of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Council delegates took part in a thorough discussion of the Wallace issue and urged that all locals have similar discussions. All speakers supported the Jandreau position that action should be limited to discussion at present.

The Council voted approval of the 1948 contract policies and proposals of UE.

The delegates upheld the action of Local 301 in expelling three members for violating the union constitution. The expelled trio, Frank Fiorillo, Martin Stanton and Carmine Di Girolamo, did not appear for a district hearing scheduled for Jan. 14 on their appeal from the expulsion. They sent a letter stating they would not appeal. The three are members of the so-called "Democratic Action" group.

Will Continue Food Center

The Local 301 membership meeting Tuesday night voted to continue the union's Food Center and approved the statement of policies and report on three months' operations submitted by Chairman James Cagnetta for the Food Committee. Details of the report will be printed in next week's EU News.

Emspak Points Out Big Business Lies

Big Business is concentrating its publicity on spreading two major lies, UE Secretary-Treasurer Julius Emspak told the Jan. 14 meeting at 301 Hall. The first lie is about the Taft-Hartley law, he pointed out, and the second is about the relation between wages and prices.

"The impression is being planted in the minds of the people that unions that don't file affidavits are violating the law," Emspak said. "That's a lie."

He emphasized that the law does not require any union to place itself under the anti-labor T-H board or to file affidavits, and that UE, like the Steelworkers and many unions, has voted to by-pass the board.

On the wage-price relationship, Emspak warned, "GE will have you believe a wage increase means a price increase. Perhaps that's the biggest lie and the most successful lie that has ever been put across."

He advised people not to be fooled by the recent reductions of 3 to 10 per cent GE has announced on certain luxury items.

"What has a television set to do with the cost of living?" he asked.

He said that after OPA was killed, GE jumped prices of washing machines 100 per cent and of some refrigerators about as much. The new reduction means that an item which sold two years ago for \$60 and has been selling for \$120 to \$130 now goes down to \$114.

The labor cost on a refrigerator is about \$17, he pointed out, and the 18 1/2 cent raise "maybe increased the labor cost \$2", a tiny fraction of the increase GE made in the price.

"There's no relationship at all between wages and prices," he declared. "The company makes the decision on prices on the basis of how much the traffic will bear. It's their decision exclusively and it always has been."

Will Ask GE to Drop Annual Shut-Down Plan

A survey taken by shop stewards in their shops shows that most workers want to select their own vacation instead of having GE assign vacations on the basis of the shut-down schedule it has announced here.

Both the 301 Executive Board and the Stewards' Council last week voted that the union should take up with management at once the question of changing the shut-down plan. The policy of annual shut-downs has spread throughout GE plants.