

GE GRABS \$6,000,000 INSURANCE REBATE!

Every year for the past six years General Electric has grabbed off a rebate of **FOUR TO SIX MILLION DOLLARS** out of the Insurance Fund. And although most of the money paid into the Insurance Fund is **YOUR** money, **GE HAS KEPT EVERY PENNY OF IT!!**

If a labor union ever got tied up with an insurance fund where a few hundred dollars stuck to some corrupt labor leader's fingers, there would be sensational headlines and government investigations all over the country.

IUE forced the exposure of GE's "Big Steal" by appearing before the Massachusetts State Committee Investigating Insurance and Health-Welfare Funds. Early this winter John Callahan, Chairman of the IUE General Electric Conference Board, and Joe Swire, Pension and Insurance Expert for the IUE, appeared before the Massachusetts Commission and told the full story of GE's "insurance racket".

After IUE turned on the heat, GE sent a man to Massachusetts to testify. But he said "there is nothing improper or unethical in not dividing the funds among the employees"!!!

The witness for GE, who appeared on Dec. 26, was E. S. Willis of New York City.

Not only did he admit that GE gets a **REBATE OF FOUR TO SIX MILLION DOLLARS EVERY YEAR**, he also admitted that the percentage of the company's contributions to the overall costs of the Insurance Plan have been going down since 1951.

Here are the figures Willis revealed:

Year	Co. Portion of Total Payments
1951	58%
1952	52%
1953	49%
1954	45%

Here are the remarks of the IUE GE Conference Board Chairman that smoked GE's multi-million dollar "racket" out into the open:

"You may be surprised when I tell you this, but never once in the six years of our existence did we get information as to what the actual experience of these plans (our IUE Plan with GE) was.

"Never once did we get information as to any dividends that were paid . . . as to how the plan was operated on the financial level, what the costs were, whether our people were being overcharged, etc.

"All the talk one hears is about health plans run by unions. The truth is that in our industry, very few plans are run by labor-management trustees. The vast majority of our people are covered by **MANAGEMENT - OPERATED**

"We feel that our people are entitled to some share. Their contributions in 1953 exceeded that of the company, yet GE kept the entire dividends. . . .

"Because of the shroud of secrecy maintained by the insurance in-

an organized plant where the company pays the full cost for the wife and dependents. The husband, working for GE, pays his premiums for insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, surgery and major medical. He pays the same proportion as other people.

"Yet when he gets sick, he finds that smaller employers, not as wealthy or as powerful as GE, are compelled to pay his bills or the major share of his bills. Thus GE . . . actually is forcing smaller companies, which have a tougher competitive situation, to pay for some of their (GE's) employees bills!!!"

2. The example cited here is that of wives of GE workers who are school teachers in Lynn, Pittsfield, Fitchburg and elsewhere in Massachusetts, and who have deductions from their teachers' salaries for a Blue Cross-Blue Shield plan. They pay the entire cost of the plan themselves. Their husbands also pay for full family coverage under the GE plan.

"Yet," Callahan stated, "when the husbands working for GE get sick, they find that they have no GE coverage if they are covered by their wives' program—except where the GE program may excel the other program. Then the other program covers most of the bill and GE takes the expense for only a few items."

These revelations also knock into a cocked hat all the GE baloney that it has been paying "two-thirds" of all Insurance expenses.

The facts show that GE actually pays only about 40 per cent of all the costs. Then, when the company gets the **ANNUAL REBATE OF FOUR TO SIX MILLIONS**, that reduces the original company contribution to around 25 percent. **So the EMPLOYEES ARE PAYING MORE THAN TWO-THIRDS AND GE IS PAYING LESS THAN A THIRD.**

**Insurance Paid
GE Millions**

The General Electric Co. received from 4 to 6 million dollars from 1950 through 1955 in "dividends" from employees insurance plans, a GE insurance consultant yesterday told a Massachusetts commission studying health and welfare funds.

But the witness, E. S. Willis of New York, said there is nothing improper or unethical in not dividing the funds among the employees, if the employer has negotiated on a benefits basis.

**WORCESTER, MASS.
TELEGRAM
DEC. 26, 1956**

plans and we get no information on how these plans operate.

"Let's take the question of dividends for instance.

"In GE our people pay for at least half the total cost of premiums. The average annual payment has been around \$30,000,000.

"In 1954 the company's contribution was \$12,000,000 out of about \$28,000,000 — the employees' was \$15,500,000. . . .

"Theoretically, if there is an overpayment of premium and some of the premium is to be returned, there should be a return to the individuals involved—at least in proportion to their contributions.

"Yet the amount of dividends has remained a secret for years (with the full dividend being kept by GE).

"Dividends in GE have been substantial. In 1953 it amounted to \$6,500,000.

industry and (GE), nobody knew about that dividend for several years.

"If some labor union were in that situation and kept secret a dividend of **SIX AND A HALF MILLION DOLLARS**, front-page headlines and Congressional investigations would rend the country.

"Unless your committee or a similar committee can do something about this matter, dividends earned by the contributions of our members and by contributions of GE will go entirely to the GE Company. We don't think this is ethical."

Those were not the only company tricks that Callahan exposed. He also raked the company over the coals for its chiseling on other aspects of the Insurance Plan.

1. "Take the situation where the wife (of a GE worker) works for

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301,
REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY
GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee

President.....Harry Williams
Vice President.....Julius Thomas
Treasurer.....Gerald O'Brien
Recording Secretary.....Earl Coons
Ass't Recording Secretary.....Michael Rakvica
Chief Shop Steward.....Vincent Di Lorenzo
Business Agent.....Leo Jandreau
121 ERIE BLVD. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

GE CONFERENCE BOARD DELEGATES ELECTED

Four delegates were elected to represent Local 301 at the G.E. Conference Board for the year 1957.

The second shift meeting elected Joseph Alois. Two candidates ran for the office, Joe Koral being defeated by Alois.

At the first and third shifts meeting a mo-

tion was passed with no opposition to send the President and Business Agent, Harry Williams and Leo Jandreau, as delegates to the Conference Board. Two other candidates ran for the fourth delegate position: William Kelly and Serafin Pita. Kelly was elected by an overwhelming majority.

The G.E. Conference Board which is composed of representatives of all G.E. Locals affiliated to IUE-AFL-CIO, represents over 100,000 G.E. workers. The Board is expected to convene for a meeting some time next month.

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

Vol. 3 — No. 2 The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y. January 25, 1957

1957 Standing Committees Elected

The standing committees for 1957, which were recommended by the Executive Board and approved by the membership at the January meeting, will handle many important functions and activities of IUE Local 301 during the coming year. The various committees are as follows:

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

- William Linka, #273
- Stanley Aldhous, #49
- Anthony Campriello, #52
- William Kelly, #273
- Fay Hildreth, #59
- Anthony Esposito, #40
- Larry Gebo, #273

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

- Whole Executive Board, with 5 members to act as sub-committee:
- William Stewart, #273
- William Linka, #273
- Joseph Koral, #40
- Andrew Hmura, #269
- Henry Kaminski, #76

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Gerald O'Brien, #17
- William Templeton, #40
- John D. Smith, #273
- Vincent Palazake, #60
- Leo Jandreau, Bus. Agent.

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE

- William Garrison, #49
- Sunday Lupi, #49
- William Van Slyke, #40
- John Smialek, #273
- Ralph Boyd, #40
- James Carey, #46
- Betty Herman, #17
- Julius Thomas, #273
- Vincent Palazake, #60

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

- Chief Steward, Recording Secy., Bus. Agent and Executive Board Member with Steward involved in case.

DISCHARGE COMMITTEE

- Joseph Sickinger, #273
- Miles Moon, #73
- Howard McLean, CART—Alternate

BUILDING COMMITTEE—OFFICERS OF UNION

- Harry Williams, #16
- Julius Thomas, #273
- Gerald O'Brien, #17
- Earl Coons, #273
- Michael Rakvica, #49
- Vincent Di Lorenzo, #49
- Leo Jandreau, Business Agent
- Anders Christensen, #273
- Bernard Fasula, #40
- William Templeton, #40
- John D. Smith, #273
- Vincent Palazake, #60

COMPENSATION & WELFARE

- Harry Williams, #16
- Michael Rakvica, #49
- Joseph Alois, #273

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

- Roy Schaffer, Office Mgr., Union
- Angie Palmer, #50
- Toni Smith, #12
- Walter Martin, #60
- Joseph Saccocio, #60
- Mary Bartlette, #24
- Pat Donato, #66
- Henry Caputo, #273
- William Pratt, #273
- William Noone, #273
- Marshall White, #40
- Mario Bagnato, #52
- Paul Briggs, #52
- Joseph Drozdowski, #10A
- William Mastriani, #69
- Reba Harrington, #24
- Russell Rapp, #60
- A. Simone, #60

APPEALS COMMITTEE

- Committee of 3 from Executive Board at time the case comes up for appeal.

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

- Toni Smith, #12
- Joseph Sickinger, #273
- John De Graff, #85

OFFICE WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- Fay Hildreth, #59
- Howard McLean, CART
- Fred Pacelli, #16

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

- Harry Williams, #16
- Julius Thomas, #273
- Gerald O'Brien, #17
- Earl Coons, #273
- Michael Rakvica, #49
- Vincent Di Lorenzo, #49
- Leo Jandreau, Business Agent

Work Continues On New Union Hall

The new Union Hall was used for the first time last Monday for the January Membership Meeting.

However, the new building is not complete. The heating system and floor are in the process of being installed and painting is also being done. The acoustic tile has not been installed on the walls as yet and installation of the public address system is still to be done. All of this work is expected to be completed by the February Membership Meeting.

The Building Committee has ordered 1,500 new chairs which are expected to be on hand for the next meeting of the membership.

The temporary facilities used at the January meeting were not very satisfactory but, nevertheless, the new building accommodated an unusually large turnout at both meetings.

Times Have Changed

Before production workers organized into Unions, office workers were a little bit ahead in wages, working conditions and fringe benefits.

But production workers leaped ahead after they organized.

And now that revolutionary changes are taking place in the office and technical field, office or white collar workers are realizing that Unionism provides their only real solution to decent wages, good conditions and dignity on the job.

That's something the Office Workers in the main plant should well ponder.

NOTICE
Executive Board Meeting

Union Headquarters
Monday, Jan. 28, 1957
7:30 P.M.



"I DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL UPHOLD THE OFFICE TO WHICH I AM ELECTED . . ." Those were the words being spoken by the new Officers at the Jan. 14 meeting of the Executive Board as IUE President James B. Carey administered the oath. From right to left: Carey, Chief Shop Steward Vince D. Lorenzo, Business Agent Leo Jandreau, President Harry Williams,

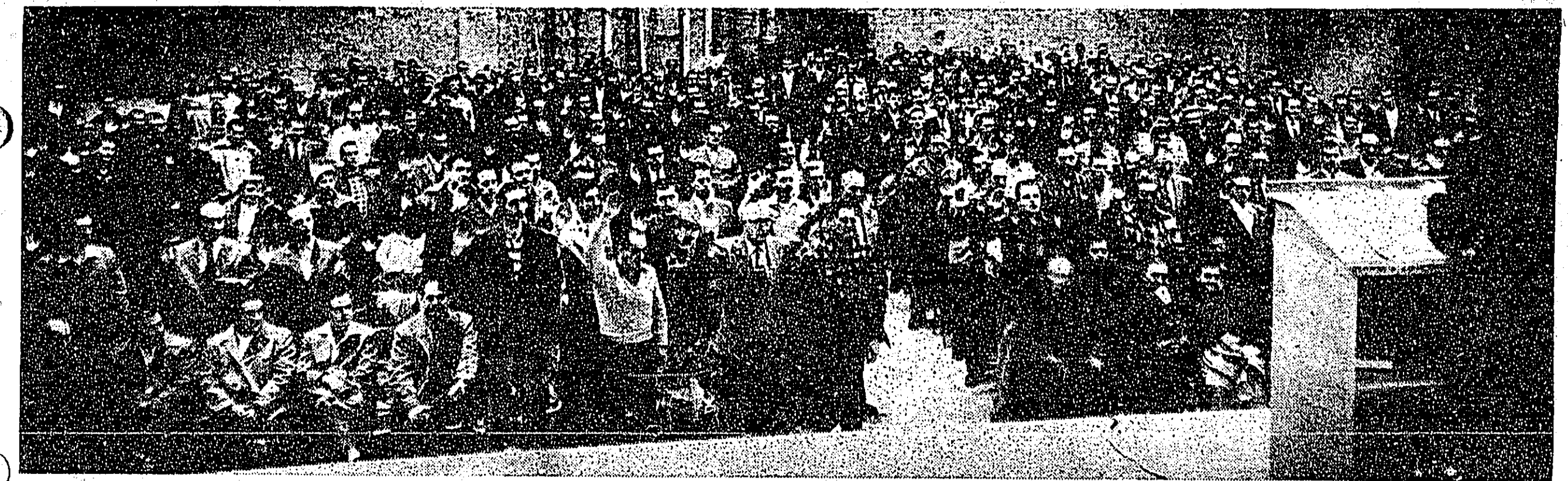
Sergeant-at-Arms Anders Christensen, Recording Secretary Earl Coons, Treasurer Gerald O'Brien, Trustee Bill Templeton, Trustee Vince Palazek, Asst. Recording Secretary Michael Rakvica, Guide Bernard Fasula, and Trustee John Smith. Vice-President Julius Thomas was ill and therefore unable to attend the meeting.

Bluejays Look To Local 301

Assistance to the program designed to keep pro baseball in Schenectady is now being considered by the Local 301 Executive Board.

At its Jan. 14 meeting the Board appointed a committee consisting of Treasurer Gerald O'Brien, Coordinator Bill Christman and Executive Board Member Ed Finkle to attend the special meeting on Bluejay Baseball held at the Schenectady Hotel last week.

The group attended the meeting and reports that the management of the team is offering a special deal on tickets for the 1957 season: \$25 for a season ticket covering 70 home games; 35 individual tickets for \$25; six tickets for \$5; one ticket for \$1; and a season ticket for children under 15 for \$12.50.



STEWARDS SWORN IN—This was the scene in the new Union auditorium Jan. 21, as Guide "Ben" Fasula, far right, administers the oath of office to Local 301 Stewards.

AS I SEE IT

by CHARLES SCOTT

If a steward has a knowledge of how the contract applies to starting rates, his contribution to the welfare of his group and to his Union will be that much greater.

Steward Flory, Bldg. 273, 3rd shift, was approached by a member in his group who thought that the starting rate given to him when he started working on "Make Stator Bar and Connect" was low. Flory and the member discussed the starting rate and the fact that

the man had previous layout experience. Steward Flory then took up the grievance with his foreman and the man received retroactive pay of over \$430.00.

This case shows that when a steward understands clearly all the details of his case and applies the contract correctly, he will get the proper settlements for his group.



ANOTHER GOAL FOR "301"—Checking over plans for the Local 301-sponsored team in Schenectady Pee-Wee Hockey are Hank Caputo, 273, and Larry Gebro, 273. Both Hank and Larry formerly played with the Schenectady Ice Generals and now manage the team. They acted as liaison between the Schenectady Hockey Association and Local 301 in its recent request for support of Pee-Wee Hockey. At its meeting Jan. 14 the Executive Board unanimously approved a grant of \$350 to sponsor a team. Brother Caputo reports that this money will pay for protective equipment, clubs, etc., for the hockey novices for the next three years. The membership endorsed the proposal at the Jan. 21 meeting.

"FDR" Birthday Will Be 'The Way He Wanted It'

Jan. 30 is the 75th anniversary of the birth of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Our late and beloved former President was a victim of polio at an early age. But he overcame that seemingly insurmountable handicap to become Governor and then President of the United States.

"FDR", as he was known and loved by millions, founded the March of Dimes to raise funds to help stamp out polio. In marking the 75th anniversary of President Roosevelt's birth, the National Foundation on Infantile Paralysis will kick off its 1957 fund-raising campaign.

Local 301 has been requested to assist in that campaign. The Executive Board has voted to do everything possible to help.

That's the way "FDR" would have wanted it. Give what you can.

NOTICE

Toolmakers Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1957

7:30 P.M.

Union Headquarters

Report of Committee Refreshments

Report of the Trial Committee

The Trial Committee elected at the December Membership Meeting reported its findings on charges preferred against Russell Potts at the January meeting of the membership.

The committee reported that Potts had been employed part time in a barber shop that Local 176 of the Journeymen-Barbers International Union of America had placed on the Unfair List.

Potts had been approached by members of the Barbers Union and asked not to cross the picket line. The Barbers Union appealed to our Union inasmuch as Potts was also employed in G.E. and was a member of Local 301.

A committee of Local 301 members tried to persuade Potts not to cross the picket line but were unsuccessful. Therefore, charges were preferred, and a hearing was scheduled. Even though he had received a registered letter notifying him of the hearing, Potts did not appear.

The Trial Committee recommended that Mr. Potts be expelled as a member of Local 301. Their report was accepted by the membership.

Election Committee Reports to Members

The Election Committee that conducted the election of Officers and Shop Stewards reported through its chairman, John Saccocio, the details of the elections.

The committee reported that out of a total of 515 Shop Stewards, 365 were reelected and 139 were newly elected. Eleven stewards' elections were turned over to the Executive Board for investigation and elections.

The report of the Election Committee was accepted and a motion was passed giving the committee a vote of thanks for doing a splendid job.



SECOND SHIFT STEWARDS TAKE OATH—Here is just a part of the 2nd shift shop stewards taking the oath of office Jan. 21. This was the first meeting to be held in the new Union auditorium.

*A Shop Steward knocked at the heavenly gate,
His face was scarred and old.
He stood before the Man of Fate,
For admission to the fold.
"What have you done," Saint Peter said,
"To gain admission here?"
"I've been a Shop Steward, Sir," he said,
"For many and many a year."
The pearly gate swung open wide,
Saint Peter touched the bell—
"Come in and choose your harp," he said,
"You've had your share of hell."*

—Anonymous.

Trustees Report

The newly elected Trustees and the Treasurer of Local 301 have been in the process of auditing the Building Fund Account from the time it was established in January of 1953.

The committee reports they have audited the books of the Building Fund for 1953, 1954, 1955 and the first 9 months of 1956, and find all monies accounted for and intact. The last 3 months of 1956 are being audited by the Union's Certified Accountant, Marvin & Co., at the present time.

The committee reports they will have a complete report to make up to January 1st, 1957, at the February Membership Meeting.

Company Violating Seniority

Business Agent Leo Jandreau charged the Company last Wednesday with not complying with the contract supplement on reduction of forces.

As a result of a review of certain specific cases in the Medium Induction Motor Department, whereby the department supervision chose to transfer employees to lower rated jobs within the department and denied them the opportunity to return to jobs in other departments where they formerly worked and on jobs where they were fully qualified.

The Business Agent also notified management the same department was transferring women with longer service out due to lack of work while holding some women with less service.

The Union is demanding an emergency meeting at the third step of the grievance procedure immediately.

Foundry Members Urged Company To "Give It to Charity"

The Foundry workers received an award as the result of a safety campaign for having an excellent "No Accident" record. The award was to consist of a chicken dinner, to be held at the Edison Club.

After considering the complications of attending the dinner which would require Sunday clothes, transportation expenses, and buying their own drinks, many of the workers decided it would cost them more than it would cost the Company.

Therefore, many of the Foundry workers thought it would be more appreciated if the Company would cancel the dinner and give the cost of the spread to the Polio Fund as a contribution from the employees. They circulated a petition which was signed by approximately 100 Foundry employees. They then delivered the petition to Foundry supervision.

As we go to press, the report is "no answer as yet" from supervision.

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