

Results Are Close In Primary Fight

(Continued from Page 1) particularly in areas where many GE and Alco workers live.

Most Effective To Date

This was the union's most effective political effort to date, regardless of the final outcome of the count. The two independent Democrats rallied a powerful opposition to the present Schenectady Democratic party machine, in the face of the tradition that only the machine vote comes out in the primary.

The vote tally showed that in every election district the machine has a sure number of votes consisting of the personal connections of the election board members and county committeemen. Where the volunteers for Peterson and Gross were able to bring out the independent vote, it went to them. The election day work showed that most enrolled party voters do not realize that the primary is for them, and most of them feel their job is to vote in November only.

On Volunteer Basis

The Peterson-Gross campaign was conducted almost entirely on a volunteer basis, because under Taft-Hartley expenditures are limited to the available contributions made to PAC last year and the independent political action fund this year. Some 150 Local 301 volunteers worked, many of them devoting nights last week to canvassing. The force was not large enough, and left many election districts completely uncovered.

The election also showed that a substantial part of the membership and stewards of 301, while in favor of the fight in principle, did not believe it could be done, and therefore did not participate actively. Now they have been shown that it can be done.

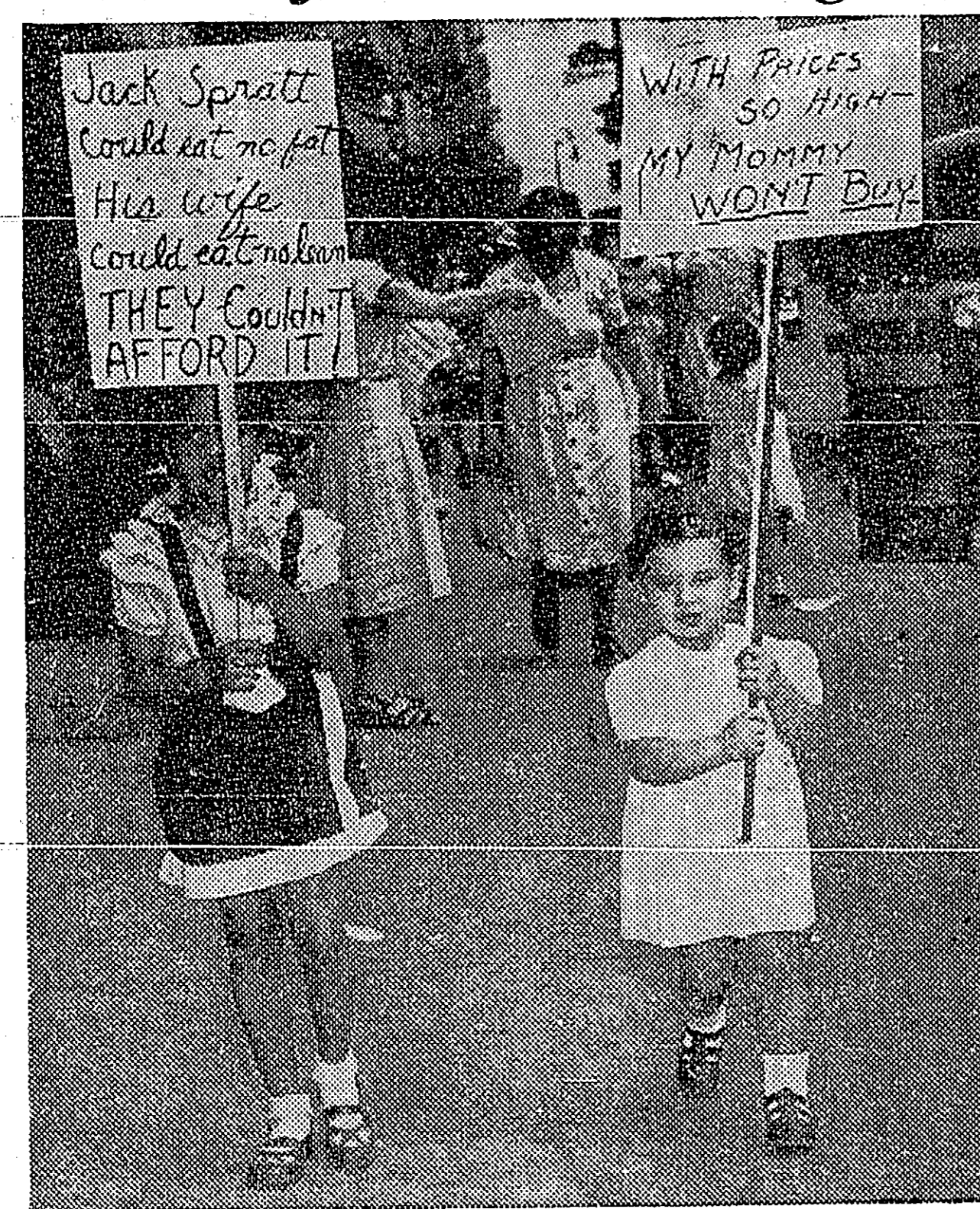
Typographical Union, Oldest in United States, Rejects Move for Taft-Hartley Affidavits

The convention of the International Typographical Union, AFL, oldest existing union in America, last week rejected a proposal to order its officers to file the "non-Communist" affidavits under the Taft-Hartley law.

Woodruff Randolph, international president of the union, told the convention:

"We want neither the benefits nor the burdens of that law. There isn't anything we can get through

They're Not Kidding



No fairy-tale is the 1948 version of the story of Jack Spratt, as told by these tots who joined their mothers picketing against high meat prices in New York. (Federated Pictures)

Get Your Contract Copy

Printed copies of the 1948 contract with GE are now available to all members at the Local 301 hall. You can get yours at the hall, or ask your shop steward. In accordance with UE practice, the local will give copies to all members. A first order of 5,000 copies has been received. More will be ordered as the members take them.

It is of value to every GE worker to read the contract, so as to know his rights.

Meat Prices Are High—The Untold Reason

THE DAILY PRESS reports that women shoppers have been protesting the high price of meat.

Most of the papers fail to add that profits of the Big Four meat packers are four times as high as they were in 1939.

This is the record of profits, after payment of taxes, for Armour, Wilson, Cudahy and Swift:

1939	\$22,000,000
1945	\$29,000,000
1947	\$88,000,000

THE PRESS also could report that high prices of meat and of everything else we have to buy can be partially blamed on Congress.

Congress, by substantial majorities of both parties, voted in favor of abolishing price control.

FORTUNATELY, most of these politicians will be up for election this November.

If you don't like what they did, the most effective way to say so will be to register and vote — and get your friends to do so too!

WEAR YOUR UNION BUTTON

Taft-Hartley "Benefits" Given Longshoremen

Here are a couple of notes for Mr. Boulware and the numerous newspaper cartoonists who tell you that workers have found the Taft-Hartley Law harmless:

On President Truman's personal instructions, the government obtained a federal injunction under Taft-Hartley, forbidding a strike by the members of the International Longshoremen's Association, AFL. The men were preparing to strike for higher wages, and particularly against the stevedore companies' demand that the men give up part of their overtime clauses.

The ILA is one of the unions that has been eager to file "non-Communist" Taft-Hartley affidavits. But the members are tied to their jobs against their will just the same. Is it or is it not a slave labor law?

Also last week, the Taft-Hartley Labor Board ruled unanimously that the union hiring hall of the National Maritime Union was illegal. Since seamen's employment ends with every trip, the hiring hall is one of the most necessary contract provisions to protect both the union and men. The hiring hall was won through very hard fights by the NMU. If the NMU loses the hiring hall finally through the courts, it means that in times of unemployment the steamship companies can get rid of union men and hire non-union men instead.

Any more questions about who the Taft-Hartley law helps, Mr. Boulware?

GE and McCabe Agree On "Anti-Inflation"

Last week's Works News boasts that Thomas B. McCabe, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, is in favor of the same "anti-inflation" program as the General Electric's "spend less" program.

Is that the reason why McCabe was named to the big Federal Reserve job after Marriner Eccles, a Roosevelt appointee, had been bounced by President Truman, like most other Roosevelt men after FDR's death?

251 Sign in 2 Weeks

St. Louis, Mo.—District 8's membership drive got off with a bang with 251 new members signed up during the first two weeks. At Bucyrus-Erie, in Evansville, Ind., 140 new members were signed in two weeks ending July 17.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

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Union Presses Company On Seniority Violations

A grievance meeting with Charles G. Marcy, supervisor of personnel, last Friday, brought out the fact that the company's local personnel department is refusing to comply with the contract seniority provision requiring "bumping" of shorter service people to give jobs to those with longer service.

The union has requested an early meeting on the case at the Howell level, and is preparing to push it promptly all the way.

Marcy defended the handling of recent lay-offs of women workers on the ground that his department was only making a reasonable effort to place laid-off workers in available openings before "bumping." But the discussion brought out the following facts:

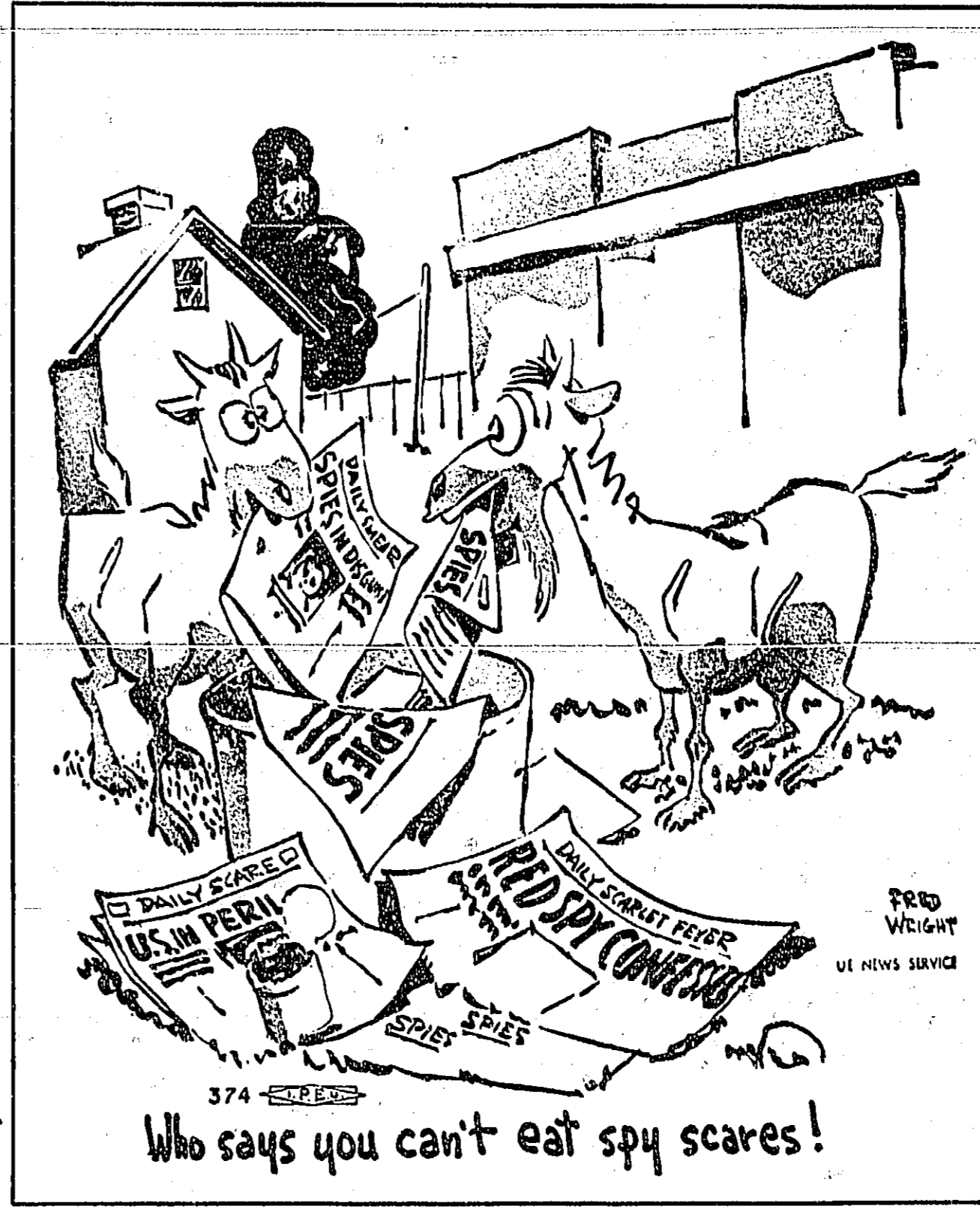
As of the previous week, or about August 20, there were still out of work, 23 women with service dating from 1943, and 35 with service dating from 1944.

As of the same time, there still were employed in the works here 22 women with 1945 service, 13 with 1946 service, and 55 with 1947 service.

Marcy said that five of the 55 with 1947 service were shop stewards, who have top seniority under the union contract. He also contended that many of the other short service women were on rather undesirable jobs, such as on sweeping, or in mica. He also said that many who were still out on lay-off had personal handicaps making it difficult to place them.

The union cited specific cases of longer service women who had been refused jobs even though they were willing and able to take any job. The committee also brought out that some short service women were holding very desirable jobs, and that in any event the longer service women were entitled to take the less desirable jobs if they wanted to. Marcy declared that where a longer service worker had turned down a less desirable job, such as in mica or taping, some time ago, he would refuse to offer her such a job by "bumping" now, regardless of the contract, because to do so would "not be fair."

The union cited cases of longer service women who had lost two or more months of work because of Marcy's refusal to "bump." The committee told Marcy that he was simply violating the contract, and that the case would have to be taken on up.



Who says you can't eat spy scares!

Local 301 Joins in Protesting Against Military Interference with Contracts

Business Agent Leo Jandreau was chosen by the 301 membership and stewards' meeting this week to serve on a national UE committee which will take up with government officials the "unwarranted interference by the military authorities" with the job rights of workers in private employment and the enforcement of UE contracts.

UE President Albert J. Fitzgerald wrote to President Truman Aug. 24 asking him to meet with the union on the question and requesting that a halt be called to "these outrageous attacks on workers and their unions" by the Army and Navy Departments.

Jandreau read to the 301 meeting a memorandum from the national UE office citing cases throughout the country in which workers have been laid-off or transferred such a job by "bumping" now, regardless of the contract, because to do so would "not be fair."

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Fitzgerald Letter To President Truman

The letter from UE President Albert J. Fitzgerald to President Truman, protesting discharges and transfers of workers and other contract violations caused by the Army and Navy Departments, points out the arbitrary and unfair methods used.

"The employees directly involved are not given any written statement of charges indicating any specific acts of disloyalty against the government. The only procedure permitted by the military is what they call a 'hearing' before the Industrial Employment Review Board.

"These 'hearings' are a travesty on justice and fair play. They are conducted as star chamber proceedings. The employees involved and their union representatives are (Continued on Page 2)

UE President Hits Motives Of New Probe

UE President Albert J. Fitzgerald this week attacked the motives of the House Labor Committee's "investigation" of UE, scheduled to start just four days before the union's national convention. Fitzgerald was scheduled to appear Thursday (yesterday) in Washington before a sub-committee headed by Representative Charles J. Kersten of Wisconsin. The UE convention will start Monday in New York.

Denouncing Kersten as a "completely unprincipled publicity seeker, liar and slanderer", Fitzgerald declared that "we will not be intimidated by Kersten's unprincipled effort to misuse the investigating power of Congress to blackmail a union convention, to seek personal political revenge or to censor the political ideas of our membership."

Purposes of 'Investigation'

Fitzgerald charged that the "investigation" is obviously intended "to interfere with the important work of preparing for the convention."

"More importantly, the 'investigation' is intended as a form of blackmail against the convention delegates. Kersten hopes to intimidate the UE convention into adopting policies that betray the members and serve the employers as he himself has always served them.

"The most important reason for the attack upon UE has been brazen (Continued on Page 2)

Shop Stewards' Meeting Postponed to Sept. 21

The shop stewards' meeting which would ordinarily take place next Tuesday night has been postponed until Sept. 21, when the stewards will meet jointly with the membership.

The Executive Board decided on this change, because next Tuesday is the day after Labor Day, and because holding a joint session for stewards and membership gives opportunity for a large meeting to hear the report of delegates on the national UE convention.

301 Protests Against Military Interference

(Continued from page 1)
ferred under the excuse of "security", and in violation of UE contracts.

He reported that in Schenectady military authorities are already interfering with GE-UE relations. Local 301 has asked management to increase the rate of Class A machinists in the Peek St. Plant because of risks involved in working with radio-active material. The company has turned down the union's request for a union-company investigation of working conditions, on the grounds that military authorities won't permit it for security reasons. Such investigations are conducted everywhere else in the plant and were conducted throughout the war. They are guaranteed by the contract.

Although Board Member Anthony Villano, who represents Peek St. workers, has a Q card, (clearance from the FBI) he is not allowed the same access to workers there that he has elsewhere.

The company recently notified the union that employees in searchlight and ordinance, Bldg. 46, and in aeronautics, Bldg. 28, are being screened. That means the departments are listed as "classified" by the military, and workers are investigated, fingerprinted and given badges.

Taking Peek St. as a model, GE recently tried to set up restrictions in the Campbell Ave. plant about visits from union officials or committees. This "limited procedure", (polite term for contract violation) was proposed because work in Campbell Ave. is of a "highly competitive nature." There's no "security" involved.

Jandreau told the company that the contract procedure is "too limited now", and that such a curtailment would seriously interfere with the rights of the workers.

301 on Air

Tune in on the Local 301 broadcast at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday over WSNY.

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Published by Editorial Committee
Mary McCartin, Secretary
Arthur R. Bertini, Olynthus Pudney
John G. Grasso, Victor Pascho

Editorial Office
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301 Liberty St., Schenectady, N. Y.
Telephone 3-1886



Letter to Truman

(Continued from page 1)
threatened with prosecution if they divulge to anybody, including the union membership or fellow employees, what transpires at these hearings. The persons involved are not advised of the nature of any acts of disloyalty and are not confronted with accusing witnesses. The sole purpose of that hearing is to permit the persons involved to establish their innocence. This, of course, violates the American concept that a person is deemed to be innocent until he is proven guilty.

"In not a single instance has there been any specific accusation of any act of disloyalty by any of the persons who have been considered 'poor security risks', and have thereby been denied the right to work in a plant at their own job or the right to act as a union representative in certain areas of the plant."

Broadcast from Berlin

The Arthur Gaeth program, sponsored by the national UE, will be broadcast from Berlin at 10 p.m. Monday, Labor Day. You can hear it on Station WXKW, Albany (850 on your dial).

UE President Hits Motives of Probe

(Continued from page 1)
only revealed by the sub-committee itself. It is a part of the reactionary pattern to impress 'thought control' upon the working people of the country.

Attempt at Thought Control
"The members of the UE, in common with all American citizens, are accountable to no one for their political ideas.

"The house of the UE is in better order than the House of Representatives under the 80th Congress. Our house is in good order because we fight for a better life for our members, as our 1500 union contracts prove, while the 80th Congress has brazenly flouted every interest of the common people of our country."

Fitzgerald also said: "The UE has had previous dealings with the gentlemen of the Hartley Committee. Twice, sub-committees of the House Labor Committee have attempted strike breaking jobs against members of our union on behalf of notoriously reactionary employers. Among committee members taking part in anti-UE strike breaking work for the Univis Lens Co. and Remington Rand were Messrs. Clare E. Hoffman and Charles J. Kersten. Although these gentry used every trick of red-baiting at their command in their strike breaking job, there was not the slightest suggestion of espionage in the questioning or the testimony at these previous 'investigations' of UE affairs, save in one committee document that was exposed as a forgery.

"The motives of the House Labor Committee in launching this kind of attack upon UE at this time are obvious."

The UE president said, "the Labor committee is jealous of the headlines won by the House Un-American Committee spy circus and hopes to win similar headlines for itself."

He pointed out that "at least two of the three members of the Kersten subcommittee, Kersten and Carroll C. Kearns of Pennsylvania, are personal political enemies of the UE. Both hate this union because UE members have opposed their election in the past and will do so in the future. The appointment of these two men to a subcommittee to 'investigate' UE makes a farce of any pretense of impartial hearings or honest findings."

ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS

Correction Won In Transfer Rate

Works Manager Louis Male last week agreed to correct the transfer rate of an inspector in Building 69 retroactively to the date of transfer, after the union showed the contract had been violated. The settlement means eight months of back pay, ranging between 10 cents and 15 cents an hour for different periods.

The man, a young Class H inspector showing unusual ability, had been jumped to Class C, carrying a 24-cent job rate increase. Instead of receiving the transfer rate of two steps below the new job rate, he was kept at his old rate, and after eight months was still three steps below the new rate. When Shop Steward Marie Sweeney took up the matter with Foreman M. Donnelly, he claimed supervision had acted correctly.

When the case was taken up in Building 41, A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, was asked by the grievance committee how he reconciled his position with the contract provision on upgrading on a related job. He replied that "if we applied the provision, we would get a cock-eyed answer."

Male agreed to a retroactive increase to \$1.40 to the date of transfer, and to the full job rate of \$1.50 (under the 1947 contract) six months after that date.

Company Will Pay For Tagging Wires

A price-cutting move by supervision in Building 81 was stopped last week when the company agreed, in a shop sub-committee meeting, to pay for the necessary tagging in the random wiring of electronic panels on a basis of recognizing that an average 40 percent of the wires needed tagging.

Tagging of the longer wires had been recognized as necessary to trace them, until recently supervision declared that it was "not necessary." The tagging had been paid for at one per cent per wire tagged.

In the sub-committee meeting Paul Thomson of the Works Manager's office recognized that not to tag the wires would slow up the wiring, and asked for a permanent basis for figuring the number of tags. He accepted Shop Steward Arthur Di Lallo's estimate of an average 40 percent.

GET YOUR COPY OF THE CONTRACT

Looking Backward

	MEAT	BREAD	MILK	EGGS	BUTTER	Canned Tomatoes
1948 Value						
1947 Same Money						
1939 Same Money						

Food symbols on this chart show what your money bought in 1939, in comparison with current purchasing power. It is easy to see where your money goes.

Peterson Requests Ballot Examination

Andrew Peterson, 301 president, has applied for a court order to permit his representatives to examine the ballots cast in the Democratic primary for nomination for Congress, because of the closeness of the vote, and other reasons. According to what the examination shows, it might be the basis for a recount.

The petition submitted to Supreme Court Justice John Alexander pointed out that with a margin of only 207 votes between Peterson and William M. Murphy, the machine candidate, in the official tally, there were a total of 226 blank ballots reported, and 1,132 blank ballots. The petition stated there were other possible discrepancies. Judge Alexander was to hear the case yesterday (Thursday).

The official total in the Democratic primary, for the five counties in the Congressional district, was given as 2,598 for Peterson and 2,805 for Murphy. Peterson was unopposed in the American Labor Party primary, and will be on the ballot on Row C in November regardless of the outcome of the request to examine the Democratic ballots.

As the count stands now, Peterson lost Schenectady and Fulton counties, and carried Montgomery, Otsego and Hamilton. An interesting feature was the vote in the farm county of Otsego. Peterson carried Oneonta, where the Democrats are largely railroad workers, by 69 to 10. He carried the rest of Otsego, mainly a farm vote, by 165 to 58. The big weakness of the campaign was the failure of a

very large part of workers in Schenectady to vote at all.

The official tally by counties follows:

Schenectady — Peterson 990; Murphy 1,451; void 176; blank 147.
Montgomery — Peterson 1,030; Murphy 803; void 3; blank 806.

Fulton—Peterson 260; Murphy 401; void 34; blank 43.

Otsego—Peterson 234; Murphy 68; void 13; blank 10.

Hamilton—Peterson 84; Murphy 82; void and blank 125.

Jandreau Reports On Primary Election

Reporting on the primary election to the membership meeting Tuesday, on behalf of the Independent Political Action sub-committee, Leo Jandreau pointed out that Peterson ran because the Schenectady Democratic machine refused to work with labor or to put up any genuine opposition to Congressman Bernard Kearney.

Jandreau declared that political observers were agreed that Murphy could not possibly beat Kearney, while Peterson would have had a good chance to do so. The working people did themselves grave injury when they forgot primary day, he declared.

Jandreau pointed out that Peterson remained a candidate on the American Labor Party line, and that therefore the people could still roll up a vote for him which would at least serve as a warning to Kearney in the next Congress.

The membership unanimously accepted the report. Peterson turned over the chair to Vice-President William Hodges for the discussion.

301 Members Can Get FDR Christmas Trees

Members of Local 301 this year can obtain through the union Christmas trees which were planted by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1938.

The 301 membership and stewards meeting this week named a committee to take charge of the Christmas tree project recommended by the Executive Board. The union office asked shop stewards to poll their groups immediately and notify the Board members of the number of trees desired. The Board must know how many trees are to be ordered by Sept. 15.

Under an arrangement between Elliot Roosevelt and the union, up to 40,000 trees are available for UE locals in District 3. All trees will be tagged "A Val-Kill Farms Tree Planted by Franklin D. Roosevelt 1938", and will carry a guarantee they were not cut before Dec. 1, 1948.

The trees are balsam, Norway spruce, white spruce, Douglas fir and Scotch pine and will range from 4 to 10 feet in height.

Trees will be cut between Dec. 1 and Dec. 14 and delivered to the locals between Dec. 5 and Dec. 15 in lots of not less than 500 at a price of not more than \$1 a tree. The locals may sell them for anything up to, but not exceeding, \$1.50.

The 301 Christmas tree committee consists of Board Member Fred Pacelli, Shop Steward Manual Fernandez, Building 269; Shop Steward Stephen Watts, 49; Shop Steward Rossiter Lighthall, Bldg. 46, and Joseph Saccocio, 52.

MAKE YOUR SHOP 100 PER CENT UE

WEAR YOUR UE BUTTON