

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE - AFL - CIO

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DUES INCREASE TO BE EFFECTIVE IN FEBRUARY

PETITION CIRCULATED TO LOWER RETIREMENT AGE

In light of the growing unemployment and some of its contributory causes, such as new methods of production, new machining and automation, along with the young people entering the labor market, we of Local 301 are of the opinion that a means for earlier retirement would help to alleviate this critical situation.

In support of this opinion, petitions (addressed to our representatives in Congress) are being circulated throughout our Union by the Shop Stewards to introduce and urge passage of a bill which would amend the Social Security Act to provide full pensions at the age of 60.

If the opportunity were provided to retire at age 60, many employees would take the option that is provided in many plans for optional retirement between the ages of 60 and 65 years.

If you have not already seen the petition, we urge that you contact your steward immediately.

REMINGTON-RAND MOVES TO EUROPE

Elmira, N.Y., which has already been listed as a chronically depressed area, is now facing a future of even more uncertainty as a community unless something drastic is done in the very near future.

Remington-Rand, which employs a large section of the population in Elmira, has made public its intention to move much of its typewriter manufacturing to Europe! Elmira has a population of 45,000.

The big problem is how to find work for the men and women who have already been laid off by a variety of local industries and the workers who will lose their jobs because of this move to Europe.

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In accordance with Article II of the GE-IUE (AFL-CIO) National Agreement, we are notifying the local management that beginning with the February 1961 check-off of Union dues for members of IUE-AFL-CIO, Local 301, the amount of dues shall increase seventy-five cents (75¢) a month. This will make the monthly dues \$4.89 a month.

The IUE National Convention of last September adopted an Amendment to the National Constitution, which was subsequently approved by a majority of the IUE Locals, to make it mandatory for those Locals with monthly dues of less than \$5.00 to increase dues by 75¢.

Therefore, the legal requirement under the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act has been adhered to.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Do you enjoy helping others? Would you like to take an active part in your community affairs? Do you have any hobbies?

The Volunteer Bureau of Schenectady, a branch of the Community Chest, is dedicating the week of January 30th, to volunteers for Schenectady. It marks their annual drive to obtain people with various sorts of skills and talents to help carry on many community projects.

In many cases it requires just a few hours of your time and that time is used in helping others who need attention and aid of one sort or another.

The Volunteer Bureau covers such work as helping those who are ill, taking part in children's programs, such as activities at the "Y" the Scout Movement, Little League baseball, helping our senior citizens and in many other ways.

If you are interested, you can contact Mrs. Rice or the Volunteer Bureau, EXpress 9-1343.

PRIORITY IS URGED
FOR 8 KEY ACTIONS

Warning that the nation stands "on the threshold of the gravest economic crisis since the great depression of the 30's," the AFL-CIO has called on the 87th Congress to act at once to restore the nation's economic growth. The AFL-CIO called for "priority" on eight key actions.

The AFL-CIO called for the following eight-point program:

1. Presidential authority to invoke a \$10 a week cut in personal income taxes for 10 weeks when unemployment exceeds 7 percent.
2. Emergency supplementary unemployment insurance, which would cost about \$205 million a month, including payments to jobless persons with substantial earnings records not now insured.
3. An immediate 10 percent hike in Social Security benefits, amounting to \$100 million a month.
4. Federal incentive grants of \$300 million to stimulate action on state and local public works projects already approved but temporarily shelved.
5. Tax relief for small business so normal tax would be 22 percent and surtax 30 percent. Reverse is now the law.
6. Easing terms on FHA and VA mortgages to stimulate home building.
7. Accelerated placement of govt. contracts for construction and purchase of supplies.
8. Revision of Federal Reserve Board policy to provide for purchase of securities of varying maturities, with a view toward lowering long-term interest rates.

KENNEDY INCREASES SURPLUS
FOOD DISTRIBUTION IN U.S.

The first major action taken by President Kennedy to aid depressed areas was an executive order to increase the amount and types of "Surplus Food" for needy families. The action was taken the very first day after his inauguration.

Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman followed up this week by issuing an order for federal purchase of pork, beans and dried eggs for the needy.

Freeman stated that shipments of canned pork and gravy, dried peas and dried whole egg solids

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REMINGTON-RAND MOVES (Cont'd.)

In mid-October, the unemployment rate in Elmira was 4.7%. The month before that the Federal Govt. listed the city as one of the depressed areas in N.Y. State.

In a few months, the layoffs caused by a transfer of work to Europe will make it worse, unless someone provides a quick solution to this problem of runaway plants to low wage areas.

In addition to passage of a depressed areas bill, a concerted effort must be made to discourage American industry from moving American jobs to foreign countries while our population suffers from unemployment.

While West Berlin enjoys full employment made possible by our American dollars, cities like Schenectady, Elmira, Detroit and others suffer from chronic unemployment, and because of investments at the rate of \$2 billion a year in foreign countries, our gold supply keeps dwindling away.

SEVERANCE PAY EXPLAINED
by Allen E. Townsend

Under the new contract, when an employee is put on lack of work, there are several ways in which he can qualify for Severance Pay.

The least known of these is that if he goes to work for another company and is on lack of work from the G.E. for a period of one year without applying for or collecting Severance Pay, a lump sum payment of his whole Severance Pay will be remitted to him. This will not have to be repaid to the company and would in no way affect his recall rights and his service credits when he is recalled.

If he collects only part of his Severance Pay during his first year of layoff, at the end of one year any balance of his severance pay remaining would be remitted to him.

will be available to states for distribution by late February or early March of this year.

He further stated that "we are providing essential food for those who need it and at the same time assisting American farmers by action that will help to decrease our agricultural surplus."