

Turbine Settlement Okayed by Workers

The fight over the working hours in the Turbine Division was settled for the present when a shop poll of the division membership completed last Friday showed 1,269 to 289 in favor of accepting the company's offer.

At the same time the Turbine workers were determined to continue the fight for eight hours' pay per day for all, so that the third shift may have the same hours as the others. A resolution adopted unanimously by the first shift declared that at contract negotiating time early in 1948, the fight for an 8-hour per day guarantee for all shifts must be made a major contract issue.

The settlement restores the 8-hour day to the first and second shifts, and gives the third shift six days of 6½ hours each, with the right to work an additional four hours at time-and-a-half on the sixth day.

The majority who favored the proposal regretted that the third shift did not get the same work day as the others, but felt the settlement represented an important gain, because the company had backed down from its arbitrary position and its effort to get eight hours' work for 7½ hours' pay.

Members pointed out that the issue could have been settled much better and without the need of refusing overtime if the company had not been backed up by the Taft-Hartley act. At the same time, they said, the fight showed organized workers can still defend themselves, despite the new law, if they stick together.

Business Agent Leo Jandreau commented:

"This dispute should be an incentive to all our members to build and support PAC with the aim of reversing the anti-labor trend in Washington in 1948. In the meantime, we have to maintain our union strength and determination even better than in the past."

Just Another Example Of Familiar Tactics

Here's another example of the increasing interference of company officials with the internal affairs of Local 301.

While Shop Steward Joseph Rotundo of Bldg. 73A was observing a time study Monday, George L. Sholtes, the piece rate man, told him that, "The trouble with your union is that it's run by reds." The union has filed a protest against this interference with union affairs.

Radio Reporter



ARTHUR GAETH

Where PAC \$\$\$ Go

PAC dollars collected from Local 301 members will be used to campaign against Congressman Bernard W. Kearney.

Here are a few reasons that he must be defeated in the 1948 election.

Kearney voted for amendments to cripple OPA. This led to the final break-up of the OPA and the lifting of controls on food, clothing and building materials. It led to today's high prices.

Kearney voted for the Taft-Hartley anti-labor bill. This is the most sweeping, vicious anti-labor legislation ever passed by Congress. It is designed to wreck UE and other unions.

Kearney voted for the 1945 revenue bill giving huge tax refunds to corporations. President Roosevelt called it a bill "for relief of the greedy instead of the needy."

Kearney voted to assure increased profits on war contracts.

He voted for the Gwynne bill which seriously weakens the Wage-Hour Act.

He voted to slash 79 million dollars from the funds of the U. S. Labor Department. This cut drastically handicapped the work of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Conciliation Service, the NLRB, the Children's Bureau and the Railroad Retirement Board.

Kearney voted for the Knutson tax bill to give fat deductions to large corporations and individuals with big incomes, in contrast to tiny cuts in the

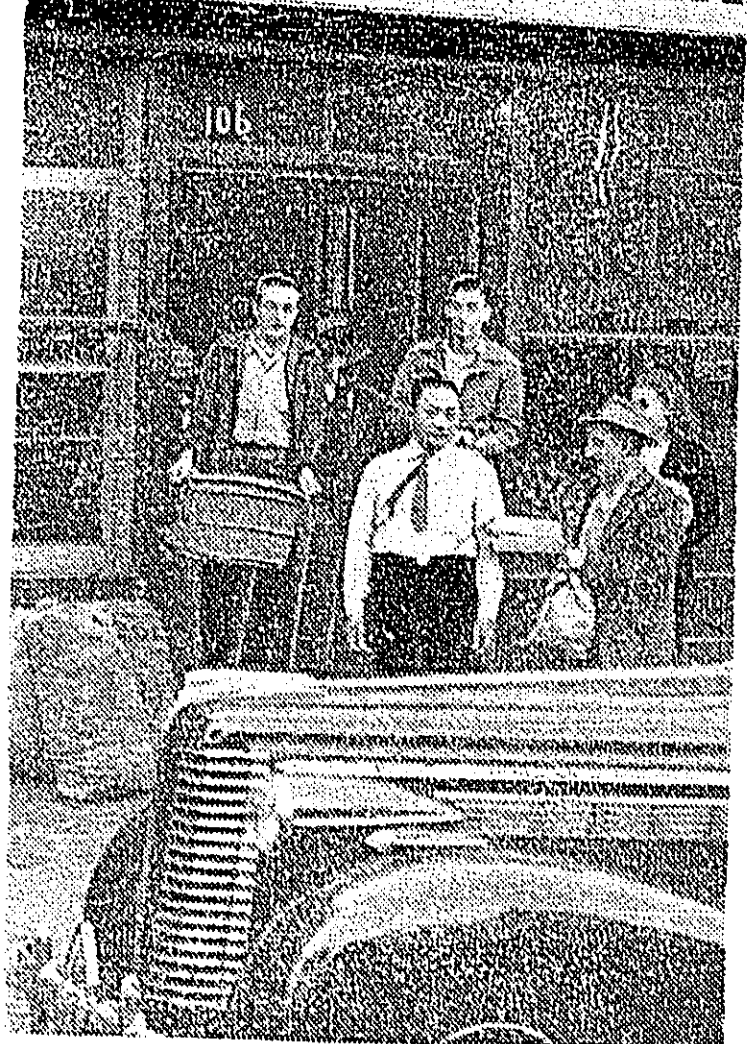
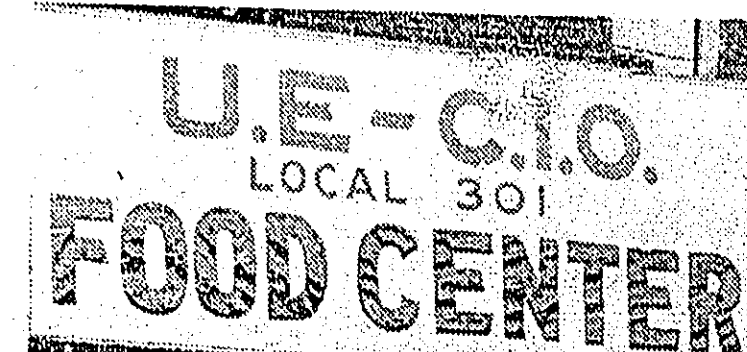
Gaeth to Broadcast On New UE Program

A brand new type of national radio program will be brought to the airwaves by the national UE beginning next Wednesday, Oct. 22. Both the ordinary people of the country and prominent people will express their views on issues of the day on this broadcast.

The program will be conducted by Arthur Gaeth, one of the ace reporters in the national radio field today.

The broadcast will be at 7:30 p. m. Wednesdays on WSNY, WABY and WBCA (FM).

Food for Union Members



A 301 member carries a bushel of apples to his car from the union's Food Center, 106 South Church St. In the right foreground is James Cognetta, chairman of the 301 Food Price Committee, holding a couple of packages. In the rear, at the right, is Stanley Bishop of the committee.

taxes of low income groups. The CIO program calls for real tax reduction for low income groups by raising their tax exemption. Kearney voted to do the exact opposite.

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Union Food Center Open Again Today

Because of last week's rush of business, the 301 Food Center at 106 South Church St. will open earlier than usual today and tomorrow. Today's hours will be 9 a. m. to 8 p. m. and tomorrow's, 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. The store took in more than \$2500 last Friday and Saturday.

James Cognetta, chairman of the Food Price Committee, said the food on sale will include: five crates of California and Arizona carrots, 20 bags of Maine potatoes (50 pounds per bag) and 300 bags of Long Island potatoes; eggs, Northern Spy and Delicious apples and 50 bushels McIntosh apples left over from last week; oranges, Pascal celery, gallon jars of cider, grapefruit, spinach, and 1 pound packages of tomatoes.

There's also a chance there may be some canned goods. Last week the store ran short of potatoes and spinach and had to refill its supply of celery, cider and grapefruit twice. The cider was sold in half-gallon jugs, but at the request of members full gallons will be stocked this week.

Food is sold only to people presenting 301 membership cards.

Delegates Elected To CIO Council

The 301 membership meeting this week elected 17 delegates to the Capital District CIO Council and four alternates.

Delegates chosen are Joseph Mangino, Joseph Krone, Frank Kriss, Albert Davis, Joseph Whitbeck, Dan Knowlton, Sidney Friedlander, John Brauneisen, George Walker, Tony Tebano, Jim Carey, William Mastriani, Gordon Belgrave, Thomas McGrath, Allen Townsend, Edmund Tanski and Clarence Groesbeck. Alternates are Joseph Rotundo, Nick Pasquarella, Marty Zach and Sam De Cesare.

\$200 for Community Chest

A donation of \$200 was voted to the Schenectady Community Chest by the 301 membership meeting this week.

Tune In

The weekly 301 radio broadcast is at 7:30 p. m. every Monday over WSNY.

Finds It Is Simple To Collect for PAC

"I went to one girl after another, and told them what PAC was trying to do, and it was no trouble at all getting their dollar contributions," says Lucy Zeppitelli, second shift steward in Bldg. 53, who has raised \$30 to date from the 52 workers she represents. She expects to raise more before she calls the job done.

"I started out the day after pay day and talked to the girls on the two refrigerator assembly lines. I told them PAC wanted to fight the Taft-Hartley Act which they were hot about and for social security and housing and to bring prices down. I did not get any argument, and just about all the girls present chipped in.

"Then on the same day I talked to my own gang, the welders, and I ran into a little opposition, including one girl who talked about Communists, but again I got a good collection. I have been picking up contributions from scattered members since then. All in all, I found it very simple. It's just a matter of going to your members, explaining what PAC stands for, and asking for the money."

Want lower food prices?
Give \$1 to PAC!

Special 301 Session On PAC Tuesday

The 301 membership will vote at a special meeting at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday in the union hall on endorsing a list of candidates recommended by the 301-PAC committee for city, town and county offices.

The list of recommended candidates, including several members of the union, was printed in the Oct. 10 issue of EU News.

Local 301 Hires Lawyer to Help Union Members

Local 301 has engaged its own lawyer who will handle workmen's compensation cases free of charge for members of the union.

He is Leon Novak, who was principal attorney for the National Labor Relations Board for five years under the Wagner Act. Soon after the Taft-Hartley Law went into effect he resigned from his NLRB position, because he felt he could not serve under such an anti-union set-up.

Novak is working full-time for 301, and for UE District 3. He will advise 301 members about filing workmen's compensation claims, will represent them at hearings and handle their appeals. He also will press unemployment insurance claims for union members.

The 301 membership meeting this week approved the Executive Board's recommendation to hire Novak. The action carried out in principle a decision voted by a membership meeting some months ago that the local should retain its own attorney.

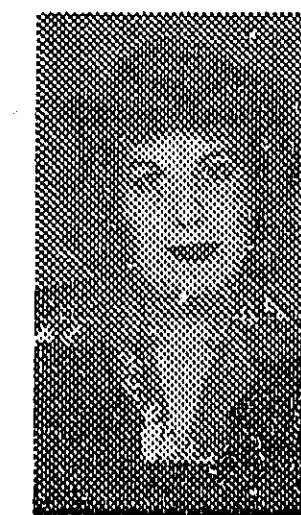
Novak has recently opened his law office in the District office in Schenectady. He will confer with 301 members by appointment in 301 hall. Later he will schedule regular office hours at 301 headquarters. He's on the job now and waiting for business.

The new 301 attorney was admitted to the bar in 1930. Before going to Washington he was connected with the New York City corporation counsel's office. He is married and has two children.

Interesting Theory

Earl O. Shreve, GE vice-president on leave and president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, gave out a solemn statement last week that prices are high because of the "many dollars" in the pockets of the people. He didn't say whether he was referring specifically to the pockets of GE workers.

Help PAC fight the high cost of living.



Lucy Zeppitelli

Gazette Plays Up Anti-Union Story

The Schenectady Gazette saw no news in the settlement of the Turbine Division work shift fight last week, but this week it blew up into a major news story the fact that 67 third shift members sent in their "resignation" because they disliked the settlement. There are 249 men on the third shift, 2,579 in the whole division.

The Gazette called the men's action a "threat to secede" and quoted one Carlyle Grey as speaking for the dissatisfied group.

Grey has never made himself known in any union meeting or activity. However, in recent weeks he has had three letters published by the Gazette, attacking the actions of the New York State CIO, of officers of Local 301, and defending members of the so-called "Democratic Action" group.

Grey was quoted by the Gazette as attacking the democracy of allowing the 2,300 members on the first and second shifts to vote on the settlement.

The settlement restored the 8-hour day to the first and second shifts, and put the third shift back on 6 1/2 hour shifts, with a sixth day at time-and-a-half and a guaranteed right to put in another four hours at time-and-a-half on the sixth day.

Business Agent Leo Jandreau said: "It is unfortunate that we did not win a satisfactory shift for the third shift too, as we tried from the start, but the Turbine membership as a whole felt that we were winning an important gain in forcing withdrawal of the 7 1/2 hour shift. The place to fight for conditions we want is inside the union. The rest of the Turbine workers have made it clear that they intend to renew the fight for eight hours' pay-per-day-for-all, including the third shift."

The "resignation" sheet was signed by 72 men, but five did not appear on the records as union members. Under the union contract a resignation is out of order at this time.

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Cooperation Asked In Saving Power

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, requested the union office Wednesday to ask workers to avoid wasting electric power in the shops during the present rainless spell.

The company has been asked by the New York Power and Light Corporation to reduce its consumption of power, Stevens said, because the water is so low in reservoirs now. Stevens said management wants to save on power to avoid having to cut down production.

The company is going to use its own steam plant to generate power, he pointed out, and if there's a sudden cold spell, some of the buildings won't be as warm as they should be.

Stevens asked that workers turn off lights and motors when not needed.

An over enthusiastic foreman in Bldg. 50 removed the fuses from the drinking water fountain, but left 100 watt bulbs burning unnecessarily. Management assured the union the foreman would be told his conservation method was wrong.

You need PAC.
PAC needs your dollar.

Union Members Favor Parking Restriction

Representatives of 301 and other CIO unions, at a recent meeting of the city-wide traffic committee, spoke in favor of a plan to prohibit parking on both sides of State St. from Erie Blvd. to Church St., between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. They said the plan would help workers get home faster from GE and ALCO.

Merchants protested that the parking ban would hurt their business. The city is to make a check of parking conditions in the area mentioned.

Local 301 was represented by President Andrew Peterson, Anthony Villano, Mary McCartin and Willard Kuschel.

Stewart Stresses Need For Political Action

Political action is the only answer to high prices, William Stewart, 301 Board member, said in the 301 radio broadcast recently.

"If we want lower prices, if we want good homes to live in, and fair taxes, we have to get busy and take an active part in politics," he declared. "It was the politicians of both major parties who put an end to price control."

Local 301 Votes to Expel Three Members; Approves Trial Committee Report in Case

The 301 membership meeting this week voted 2 to 1 to expel Martin J. Stanton, Frank Fiorillo and C. J. DiGirolamo from the union on unanimous recommendation of the Trial Committee, for violating the union's constitution.

The total vote was 286 in favor of the Committee's report and 142 against. The meeting was held in two parts and the votes taken in the two sessions were totaled. The group meeting Tuesday night voted 264 for expulsion and 126 against. The Wednesday afternoon vote was 22 for expulsion and 16 against.

The Aug. 19 membership meeting of Local 301 ordered the officers of the local to press charges against Fiorillo, who calls himself chairman of the "Democratic Action Committee", and Stanton and DiGirolamo, shop stewards in Bldg. 69.

History of Case

The Trial Committee report describes all steps taken in the case. It states that Sept. 3 the officers filed written charges accusing the trio of joining with others to plan "a campaign to discredit Local 301, its officers and membership" and of preparing an anti-union statement "which appeared in summary form as a news item in the Schenectady Gazette Aug. 5" and of other anti-union activities. Copies of the charges were mailed to the defendants.

The Sept. 16 membership meeting elected a Trial Committee to hear the charges, in accordance with the union constitution. The defendants were notified in writing Oct. 3 that they could appear before the Trial Committee at 8 p.m. Oct. 8 to answer the charges, make statements and present evidence.

None of the defendants appeared for the hearing and none of them, before that date, asked for an adjournment. A letter was received Oct. 8 from Fiorillo requesting postponement because he was on vacation.

Postponement Granted

"In view of the seriousness of the charge," the report states, "The Trial Committee decided to afford the defendant Fiorillo every opportunity to avail himself of the democratic procedures made possible by the very constitution which they were charged with violating. Written notice was therefore again sent to Frank Fiorillo on Oct. 13, 1947, notifying him that he could appear before the Trial Committee to put in whatever defense he wished on Oct. 20, 1947, at 7:30 p.m. at union headquarters."

Fiorillo, Stanton and DiGirolamo appeared before the Trial Committee Mon-

day, Oct. 20. They were represented by John Braun, Albany, attorney.

Testimony was given that the three met with Salvatore Vottis Aug. 3 and arranged for publication of an article which appeared Aug. 5 in the Gazette, attacking the union.

The defendants did not deny the testimony, the report pointed out. Nor did they put on any witness in their own behalf "although they were repeatedly offered this opportunity."

'Guilty As Charged'

The Trial Committee reported:

"As the evidence stands, the committee is convinced that the defendants are guilty as charged. It is clear that they did act together to give to the press a statement concerning union business. In the article—the defendants not only slandered the union, its members and its officers, but did so in violation of Article XIX of the constitution. . . ."

"The defendants tried to confine themselves only to the issue of Communism. We are not trying Communists nor are we defending them. We are only concerned with the fact that these defendants resorted to a direct violation of the constitution."

"The Union's national and local constitution affords every protection for the civil rights of all members. The members are free to speak and free to meet with anyone. This freedom does not mean freedom to violate the constitution by bringing the employer and his press into the internal business of the union."

Harmful to Union

"The Trial Committee also wants to make this observation—that the acts of the defendants, in violating the constitution, had the very serious effect of tending to undermine the Union by playing into the hands of anti-union forces and by giving aid to the enemies of the Union and of organized labor. By these acts the good and welfare of every union member were threatened. Such violations cannot be tolerated."

Joseph Whitbeck was chairman of the Trial Committee and Fred Pacelli, secretary. Other members were John Rej, Joseph Hils, Joseph A. Mangino, A. J. Griffith, Anthony Campiello, Sigmund Klein and Salvatore Maietta.

MAKE the PAC 100%



Troy AEL-CIO Unite On Food Store Plans

AFL and CIO unions in Troy are making plans to fight the high cost of living by opening a store where food will be sold at cost to union members. Reports on Local 301's food selling experiment encouraged the action of the Troy unions.

In addition to saving money for union members, the establishment of the food store will have other important purposes: "To show union members where their hard-earned wages are going; to emphasize the terrific profits that are being made at their expense, and to encourage them to get out and work for the election of Congressmen who will vote to restore price control."

To Plan Section Nights

The Activities Committee will meet at 8 p.m. Monday at the union hall to make plans for section night meetings.

Service for Veterans

The 301 Veterans' Center is open from 1 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Friday at the union hall.

UE District Delegates

Delegates elected to the UE District 3 Council by the Local 301 membership meeting this week are Leo Jandreau, business agent, now the district president; Andrew Peterson, 301 president; William Mastriani, chief shop steward; William Stewart and James Cognetta. The annual district convention will be tomorrow and Sunday at James-town.