

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

January 9, 1950

Company Agrees to New Check-Off Cards

The General Electric Company has just signed a new check-off agreement with Local 301 UE.

This provides that dues money will be paid to Local 301 UE under new authorization cards agreed upon locally.

The new authorization cards will be circulated today by the shop stewards.

This is in accordance with the action of the last 301 membership meeting and its demand upon the company to release the membership dues to the union.

GE workers on the old check-off who refuse to sign the new authorization card are dropping their membership in Local 301 UE.

The signing of the new cards will be the first step toward winning an improved contract on April 1, 1950.

SIGN TODAY.

Local 301, UER & MWA

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Vol. 8, No. 1

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

January 13, 1950

10,613 Reaffirm Membership in UE 301

'Imitation UE' Dodges UE Election Offers

Within the past week the Carey "Imitation UE" has repeatedly rejected or run out on clear-cut offers by the UE to work out consent elections either locally in Schenectady alone or on a nationwide basis in all GE plants.

The latest run-out by the outfit was its failure to appear either Monday or Tuesday at a conference called in New York by the Taft-Hartley Labor Board. The company and the UE were there, and began a discussion of who should vote in various plants. The board has called another conference for today, and the Carey outfit has said it will be present. It remains to be seen what new dodge they will invent to try to avoid an election.

Wilder and Wilder

The more the UE smokes out the company union boys, the wilder do their explanations become. In this desperate effort at confusion, the "IUE" has been given help by the stories in the Schenectady newspapers, which bear little or no resemblance to what actually happened. The Gazette on Jan. 6 even carried with a straight face the Carey story that an election is scheduled nationally for Feb. 10. The statement was untrue. No such arrangements have been made, because the "IUE" has been doing all it can to prevent an election.

Look at the Record

Here is the record in brief: Locally, John Braun and Dante Succi, lawyers for the "Imitation UE," had submitted a brief to Supreme Court Justice John Alexander containing the flat statement that their outfit was offering "through this court" to ask for a consent election in Schenectady. When UE 301's lawyers offered an agreement to that effect, in open court, the "IUE" attorneys talked gibberish about the right to administer the contract if the "IUE" should win. Leon Novak, UE lawyer, debunked that one by writing Judge Alexander that 301 was prepared to



agree in writing that if it lost the election here, it would waive all contract rights.

As there was nothing more to fall back on, Braun, the Kriss-Fiorillo lawyer, then wrote Alexander that this election question was all something for the NLRB. He bitterly denounced UE for bringing the matter up before Alexander. Apparently he thought people would forget it was he who brought it there.

"Imitation UE" Runs Out

Nationally, the NLRB arranged a conference last Friday in Baltimore as a result of UE's challenge to arrange an election on one day in the plants of GE, Westinghouse, and General Motors Electrical Division. The board indicated something along those lines could be worked out. The companies said they were willing. But the "Imitation UE" lawyer refused.

Then UE urged that, since the cases of the other two companies were in formal hearings, while the GE case was not yet in a hearing, a consent election should be worked out for GE alone. The "IUE" attorney weaseled, but finally agreed to the conference in New York Monday. Then he failed to show up.

The maneuvers expose completely the "Imitation UE" claim to represent GE workers. They show also that GE's claim it does not know who represents its workers is a false claim.

301 Membership To Meet Tuesday

The first 301 membership meeting in 1950 will take place at the union hall next Tuesday, Jan. 17. The agenda will include reports by the election committee and other committees, installation of officers and the election of delegates to the UE Conference Board of GE Locals.

Second shift members will meet at 12:45 a.m. Tuesday, after the close of Monday night's second shift, in accordance with a membership decision that second shift sessions should precede the first and third shifts' meetings. First and third shift members will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

T-H Compliance

Local 301 this week received notice from the National Labor Relations Board that it has complied with requirements of the Taft-Hartley Law. This means it can take part in a T-H election.

Double Gains

Highlights of the new UE contract at J. and J. Taylor Safe Works, Toronto, Canada, are a seven cent wage increase and a reduction in hours, with no loss in take-home pay.

WEAR YOUR UNION BUTTON.

Union Hands Check-Off Cards to GE

Company Gives Receipt

Officers of Local 301 delivered to the Works Manager's office Wednesday 10,613 new check-off cards signed by UE members here.

President William Kelly, Vice-President Joseph Mangino, and Treasurer Henry Kaminski delivered the cards to A. C. Stevens, assistant to the works manager. Kaminski and Trustee Joseph Whitbeck were assigned to stay with the cards until they were counted and a receipt obtained. Paymaster Ben Wilson signed the receipt for 10,613 authorization cards.

The new cards were agreed upon by the company and the union and the check-off dues will be paid again to Local 301 in accordance with the contract.

Over 80% Have Signed

Business Agent Leo Jandreau pointed out that the cards represent 80 per cent of the employed membership of Local 301.

"The figure is all the more remarkable in view of the fact that large numbers could not be reached because of illness and temporary lay-offs," he said.

"Because of the short time available to sign the cards, this is a partial return to cover the January check-off. We predict that for the February check-off we will have turned in as many as the previous check-off of 13,252 with many new members added."

GE Held Up Money

The check-off money for November and December was held up by the company on the claim that it was in doubt as to its authority to pay the money to UE locals in view of the claims by the "Imitation UE".

The union contract does not re-
(Continued on Page 2)

301 Board Elections

Local 301 shop stewards elected the following Executive Board members for 1950 Monday at the union hall.

Albert E. Davis for Buildings 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 28.

Anthony Villano for 5, 37 CAP, Peek St., Knolls, Malta, Flight Test, Alplaus.

Joseph Kelly, 12, 14, 16 and 29. Sidney Friedlander, 15, 17 and 19.

John P. Brauneisen, 18, 18A, 40, 40B and 41.

Rossiter Lighthall, 42, 46, 48 and 50.

Mario Bagnato, 49, 49 Annex, 61 TG, 60, 62, 64 (all) and 66.

Anthony Esposito, 63.

William Mastriani, 65, 69, 73, 73A, 67, 71, 75, 77 (including 234), and 79.

Robert Lott, 65, 72, 76, 80, 84, 205, 227, 238 and 241.

Dewey Brashear, 81 and 89.

Robert Phillips, 57, 87, 91, 95, 98A, B, C, D, 99A, B, 101 and 105.

A. J. Spears, 107.

Edward J. LaBombard, 85, 93, 97 and 109.

Leland Sisto, 59 and 269.

Teddy T. Wheeler, Bldg. 273—South-East rectangle bounded by a line running from east wall along Broadway west to the office space and from that point south to the front of the building.

William Stewart, Bldg. 273—balance of building.

Sam Scott, 285.

Emil Voris, 13, 13F, 61, 63, 259, 265, 49 Patrol and 11 Test-Maintenance.

Helen Quirini, women at large.

Fred Pacelli, second shift at large.

Of these 21 Board members, Brothers Lighthall, Bagnato, Lott and Wheeler are new and the rest were re-elected.

Lighthall succeeds Willard Kuschel who did not run for reelection. Bagnato succeeds James Cognetta, elected chief shop steward. Additional buildings have been included in the section. Lott succeeds Henry Kaminski, elected treasurer. Wheeler was elected in a new section set up as the result of the Turbine move to 273.

Published by Editorial Committee
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Editorial Office
ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS
301 Liberty St., Schenectady, N. Y.
Telephone 3-1385



Grievance Pressed On Women's Layoffs

A grievance meeting is scheduled shortly at the Male level over the company's refusal to apply contract seniority with respect to women now out or being laid-off and having service from December 1942 or early 1943.

The company has refused to place laid-off women with that range of service, even though it admits that there are many women on the rolls, in the \$1.10 to \$1.16 range of jobs, with service from late 1943 and even from later years. The company argues that when the present move of refrigerator controls to Morrison, Ill., is completed, all women with service later than November 1942 will be out.

The company argues that if it bumps now in favor of women with service from December 1942 and early 1943, it would have to bump these women in turn in a few weeks or months.

Local 301 has pointed out that under the contract these women are entitled to work those weeks or months.

The company also has admitted that on some jobs, where only a few weeks or months' work was involved, it had called back women with much shorter service. The union is charging violation of contract on this also.

Who Said That?

"Red Baiting, lies, slander, raising the cry of communist against militant and progressive union leaders make up nothing more than a smoke screen for the real objective of the people who use them. The real objective is to destroy the unity of the organized and unorganized workers."

Which one of the following men made the above statement?

- Henry Ford.
- John Brophy, national director, CIO.
- Henry Wallace, former U. S. vice-president.

Turn to page 3 for the answer.

Kelly Pledges 301 Aid in Negro Rights Fight

The continued support of Local 301 in the fight to end discrimination because of race, creed or color, was pledged by the union's new president, William J. Kelly, at a dinner of the Schenectady Chapter, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Jan. 6 at the First Methodist Church.

10,613 Reaffirm 301 Membership

(Continued from Page 1)

fer to the CIO. The UE contends that GE has just used the situation as an excuse to interfere with union operations by withholding money belonging to the union. However, the membership of 301 demanded that the company work out new check off authorizations in order to remove any semblance of excuse the company might have. After much resistance by the company, it finally agreed to work out the new forms.

Jandreau declared that the new cards "should dispose once and for all the claims of James Carey's 'Imitation UE'."

"They explain why the Carey company union has been resisting so desperately UE's proposal for an immediate consent election to determine who represents the employees of General Electric. Just to delink any further Carey nonsense, we are getting a receipt form the company for the 10,613 cards turned in.

"Within the past five days the so-called 'IUE-CIO' has rejected or squirmed out of offers by UE for a local consent election in Schenectady, and for a nation-wide consent election. Every time they duck the election, the Carey people give out more fantastic stories and outright falsehoods to cover up their refusal to face the workers in an election.

"The UE has smoked them out by meeting every one of their trumped-up excuses. So Monday they just failed to show up at a conference called by the NLRB in New York. The Board, the company and the UE were present. The 'Imitation UE' was missing."

Really, Mr. Boulware, They're Quite Vital

The latest of L. R. Boulware's full-page messages in the Works News attempted to answer for workers the question "What Do We Seek?"

It listed five needs that individuals seek to satisfy "in order of their importance." And what was Point No. 5, the last on the list, according to the GE philosophy? Why, such trivial things as food, clothing and shelter.

The meeting's chief purpose was to promote the national NAACP mobilization in Washington, D. C. next Sunday through Tuesday to press for anti-discrimination and civil rights bills.

In addition to President Kelly, 301 officers at the Schenectady meeting were Vice-President Joseph Mangino, Recording Secretary John P. Green and Treasurer Henry Kaminski. They appeared by authorization of the Executive Board.

President Kelly pointed to 301's long record of fighting for civil rights legislation and to the union's efforts to win equal job opportunities for Negroes at the General Electric plant.

"Despite all the lip service to equal rights by General Electric," he said, "I know that Negroes in the plant are held down mainly to jobs as laborers and crane followers, even though many of them are men with a high degree of education and skill. They are lucky if they can break into the ranks of the welders. This is something that must end. It has been the privilege of our union to have won at least some grievances through which Negro members were upgraded in accordance with their skills and seniority. I say frankly that we must win many more such grievances. It is the responsibility of all our members to see that every member gets a fair break, regardless of race or creed. We must continue to do this through our union."

In the fight for civil rights, President Kelly declared, there must be a full unity of people backing such a program "regardless of how they feel on other issues."

"Anyone who, whatever his motives, splits those who fight for equal rights is helping preserve the evil of racial discrimination and undemocratic practices," he said.

Arthur Owens and Paul Hacko, both of Bldg. 273, will go to the Washington conference from Local 301. They were named by the Executive Board.

Contract Improvements

RCA cafeteria workers at Lancaster, Pa., won a five cent wage increase under the recent reopener of their UE contract with the Fred B. Prophet Cafeteria Company. They also gained a new paid holiday and improvements in vacation.

As Second Shift Shop Stewards Take Oath of Office



The new 301 guide, Floyd E. Warner, administering the oath of office Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 3, at the union hall to second shift shop stewards and two first shifters who were unable to be there that night. Front row, left to right, James Singleton, Building 273; Edward Cassidy, 273; Lillian Kendall, 37; Marie Wilbur, 37; Andrew Boska, 273, and John Petrozzie, of the first shift, 77. Second row, Charles Holmes, 49 Patrol; George A. Roode, 273; William Hearn, 10-Test; Joseph Scardino, CAP; John Keating, 273, and C. M. Diamond of the first shift, 46.



Guide Warner in action again swearing in second shift stewards Jan. 3. Front row, left to right, Norbert Prusko, 18; Joseph Chouinard, 66; Frank Albert, 52; Fred Van Dervoort, 49; Nelson Green, 17; Maynard Porter, 76, and Vernon Wood, 84. Rear row, Graham Herwerth, 16; Lewis Crandall, 18; Vincent Liburdy, 40; Martin Behr, 10; Angelo Pace, 17; Earl Winsor, 10; Steven J. Evans, 49, and Joseph Riberdy, 227.



Another group of second shift stewards being sworn in by Guide Warner. Front row, left to right, Raymond Gimac, 16; William Cwirko, 16; Steven Van Allen, 42; Richard Bennette, 50; John Moczulski, 105; Steven F. Pasquariello, 29; Casimir Kislowksi, 273. Back row, Michael Riggt, 77; Michael Warendo, 67; William Garrison, 73-A; Rudolph Rissland, 273; Ralph F. Jeffers, 273; Clarence Perry, 273; Joseph Alois, 273, and Michael Mushuta, 273.

Jamestown Labor Unions Hit Raiding, Disruption

A conference representing the united labor movement of Jamestown, N.Y., recently went on record unanimously condemning all attempts to raid or disrupt unions. Delegates from CIO AFL and independent unions of the 45th Congressional District pledged themselves to a united struggle against anyone from outside or within who may attempt to disrupt or raid established labor organizations in the Jamestown area.

All five UE locals in Jamestown have voted full support for the national UE.

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Here's the Answer

It was John Brophy, CIO executive, who made the statement on page 2 against red-baiting of union leaders.

Don't Be a Free Rider
Join the Union.

Jandreau Addresses Lynn UE Workers

An overflow meeting of 1,000 Lynn UE members was addressed Sunday at the Odd Fellows Hall, Lynn, Mass., by Business Agent Leo Jandreau of 301, an international UE vice-president.

Jandreau said UE has embarrassed steel, auto and some other unions by practicing democracy in the union and by the economic gains it has won for its members. He compared the UE constitution and contracts with those of other CIO unions.

UE is unpopular with employers, he pointed out, because of its militancy in fighting grievances and winning good contracts. And it is unpopular with politicians because of its political independence.

"So now we have some unions, bosses and politicians ganging up against us and helping the 'Imitation UE,'" he said.

Reports on 301

Jandreau took the occasion to set the Lynn UE workers straight about the completely false stories the "Imitation UE" leader, Fred Kelley, former Lynn business agent, has been printing about Local 301 in his "IUE" paper.

"301 members are overwhelmingly loyal to UE and its policies," Jandreau declared.

He predicted that 301 would hand in more than 10,000 new check-off cards to GE this week.

"We are fighting to maintain our contract," he said. "And we are organizing so that after April 1, when GE thinks it will tear up the contract, we will get a better contract—a 1950 contract that is an improvement on the present 1948 one."

Interested in Turbine Problem

Lynn workers expressed great interest in the Turbine fight in Schenectady. Several members said it was a novelty to have a business agent talk shop problems to them—AER's, timing rates etc. Kelley, a former civil service worker, had never worked in a shop, and has limited most of his speeches to red-baiting UE. Moreover during contract negotiations and during a walk-out over wholesale contract violations at the Lynn plant this summer he was traveling around the country electioneering for the Carey faction.

The big majority of Lynn UE members are backing UE, Jandreau was told by the union leaders and by rank-and-file members Sunday.