

Fulton County Tannery Strikers Defeat CIO Textile Workers, AFL, Companies

Striking leather workers of Fulton County scored a tremendous victory Dec. 9 over the strike-breaking and raiding efforts of the CIO Textile Workers and the AFL United Leather Workers Union. In a Taft-Hartley election they overwhelmingly turned down both these unions which had been called in by the Fulton County Tanners Association.

Because the strikers' own union, the Independent Leather Workers Union, was kept off the ballot by the Taft-Hartley Board, it campaigned for a "No Union" vote. The vote was 493 for no union, 180 for the CIO Textile Workers and 144 for the AFL.

The victory was even larger than the figures show. From 30 to 50 foremen were allowed to vote and votes of 43 strikers backing the "no union" campaign were challenged and not counted.

When the lock-out and strike started the leather workers were members of Local 202, International Fur and Leather Workers Union, CIO. The companies refused to deal with the union because it hadn't filed non-Communist affidavits with the Taft-Hartley Board. Local 202 then disaffiliated from the International Fur and Leather Workers, adopted a new constitution, held a new election of officers and filed the Taft-Hartley affidavits. But the companies kept right on with their red-baiting and the Taft-Hartley Board refused to let the new union on the ballot.

The companies by letter and newspaper advertisements urged the strikers to vote for the AFL or the Textile Workers, CIO, and stated they wouldn't bargain with the strikers' own union. The CIO Textile Workers campaign slogan was "vote for a right wing union." Like the AFL and the companies, the Textile Workers concentrated on red-baiting.

There was intense outside pressure on the strikers on the eve of the election to vote for the AFL or the CIO Textile Workers.

Did You Know?

Before UE, in the 15 years from 1920 to 1935, the electrical manufacturing industry raised wages only five cents.

In the 13 years since UE has been in the field, average hourly wages have risen 87 cents. In the boom year 1929 average hourly earnings were 62 cents; in August, 1949, they were \$1.54.

Don't Be a Free Rider
Join the Union.

Real Seniority versus Steel Seniority

A Carey speaker, on the radio last week tried to run down the GE contract because after providing that service is the major factor in layoffs, the contract also says, that "ability will be given consideration."

Well, they asked for it, so let's compare seniority clauses.

First, the Carey stooge misrepresented the facts by saying that under this clause GE determines ability.

Actually, the clause simply means that a man cannot claim seniority on a job he cannot do. If the company claims a man cannot do a certain job, then it becomes a subject for grievance between the union and the company. Where a man can do the job, straight seniority applies under the UE contract.

But in the contracts negotiated by Philip Murray with the major steel companies, continuous service applies only "where ability to perform and physical fitness are relatively equal." This means that the company can find reasons in almost every case for disregarding seniority.

And the major steel contracts provide for no notice of lay-off, while the GE contract provides for one week's notice during which the case can be argued with the company and seniority rights enforced.

New Table Obtained On Turbine Punchings

After six months of discussion between union representatives and management a new table for turbine punchings in main bay Punch Press, Building 17, has been agreed on to correct inequities in these jobs which have existed for many years.

It provides approximately a one per cent overall increase in average prices plus a sizeable increase for short iron jobs running six and eight out per sheet. Board Member Sidney Friedlander pressed the grievance.



"It's part of our deal with that Carey outfit..."

Surprise, Surprise

Frank Fiorillo has been appointed district field director of the "Imitation UE" and is reported to get about \$550 a month. Whether this includes "expense" money is not clear.

Fiorillo never was a shop steward and never handled a grievance. No one can find out what organizing he ever did except to organize disruption as a Carey agent. He dropped out of the union in 1941. When he came back later his chief activities consisted of smearing the union in the public press.

Obviously he can't be drawing his pay for organizing experience. It must be his reward for disorganizing.

Local 301 Dance

Shop stewards who haven't turned in the donation ticket books they have been selling to finance last weekend's Christmas party for children, should turn them in today at the union office.

The donation tickets will serve as admission to the Local 301 dance at 9 p.m. tomorrow (Saturday) at the union hall. You also can buy tickets at the door. Everyone who buys a ticket, whether he attends the party or not, has a chance to win the prize, a television set. The drawing will be at 10 p.m. tomorrow.

301 Asks GE To Ignore Check-Off Revocations

Local 301 asked the company Wednesday, in accordance with the contract, to disregard the alleged check-off revocation notices which were delivered to GE in bundles Dec. 6 or thereabouts.

Business Agent Leo Jandreau, in a letter to A. C. Stevens, assistant to the works manager, pointed out that the notices were not sent by individual registered letter to the company and the union, as required by the contract.

"There is more involved than the form of notification," Jandreau wrote.

"Already large numbers of those who signed these alleged revocation slips have notified us that they would not have done so if they had had a clear understanding of what they were doing. It is evident that those individuals who asked members to sign revocations resorted to misrepresentations or improper pressure in a great many cases. It is clear that the requirement of an individual registered letter is a sound requirement for the protection of the members from this kind of activity."

Over 100 members had informed the union office by Wednesday that they signed the revocations as the result of misrepresentations made to them by "Imitation UE" agents.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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

Vol. 7, No. 50

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

December 23, 1949

GE, 301 to Work Out Check-off Form

T-H Board Is Forced To Back Down by UE

Federal Court action by UE this week forced the Taft-Hartley Labor Board to back down on a plan by its General Counsel Robert N. Denham to rig board representation hearings against UE in favor of the "Imitation UE."

Denham had sent secret instructions to regional directors of the Taft-Hartley board, setting up special rules for hearings involving UE and the Carey stooge outfit. Under these rules, certain evidence, particularly on the contracts now in effect, was to be barred from the hearings. This meant a destructive attack on the standing of union contracts.

Cancel Special Rules

As a result of the UE's court action in Washington, the Taft-Hartley NLRB cancelled the special rules and returned to the rules applying to all representation cases.

The court action brought into the open a vicious three-way team-up between the major companies, the "Imitation UE", and the NLRB to try to do a job on UE by rigging every representation case so as to hold an election under conditions most favorable to the "Imitation UE."

Companies Help Carey

Both GE and Westinghouse have filed petitions for Labor Board elections. This simply helps the Carey outfit. In numerous plants of both companies the "IUE" could not show enough membership applications to justify an election. The company's request for an election means the Carey stooges can get an election just the same.

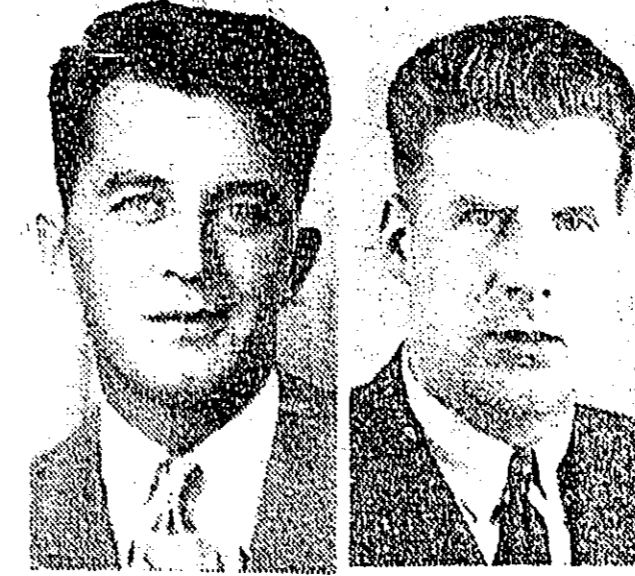
The UE more than a month ago proposed that consent elections be worked out in GE and Westinghouse, to be held March 15, as the contracts expire April 1. Neither the NLRB nor the Carey outfit has accepted. The board has not answered the UE's proposal as to GE.

The Taft-Hartley board's insistence on going through hearings instead of working out consent (Continued on page 2)

Elected for 1950



John Green Virginia Murphy



Henry Kaminski James Muir

Here are four more of the officers whom Local 301 elected for next year. John Green, acting recording secretary, will be recording secretary and Shop Steward Virginia Murphy will be assistant recording secretary. Executive Board Member Henry Kaminski will be treasurer and Shop Steward James Muir will be sergeant-at-arms. Pictures of the three trustees and the guide will be published next week.

Raise for Stockkeeper

A grievance pushed by Shop Steward Louis Strenka last week brought a one-step increase, with back pay from Oct. 24, to a stockkeeper in the tinsmith shop in Building 52. After the case was taken to Building 41, there was a joint investigation in which Strenka and Board Members Joseph Mangino and James J. Cognetta represented Local 301. The company finally admitted that the job was under-rated.

Turbine Boring Mill Operators Will Meet

A meeting of all boring mill operators in the Turbine Division will be held next week to consider the company's announcement that it is going to downgrade part of the boring mill work and cut the rates.

The second shift operators will meet at the union hall at midnight Tuesday, Dec. 27, after work. The first and third shift operators will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 28.

Because of the importance of the question, shop stewards for other machine groups in Turbine will attend the meeting of the boring mill operators from their respective shifts.

New Rates Scheduled

At a meeting with the special turbine committee Tuesday, Works Manager Lewis J. Male said the company had definitely decided to proceed with the new rates. He said the new timing rates would be applied beginning Jan. 3. Victor Pasche, assistant to the business agent, pointed out that the operators felt that the move was a serious one and asked again that the company postpone action until the case could be argued in New York. Male refused, saying it would set a precedent which he did not want. The announced move has been under discussion since the summer. (Continued on page 2)

January Dues Deductions to Be Deferred

Local 301 membership action to smoke out the company's phony excuses for withholding the check-off money resulted this week in the company's agreeing to work out a new form of authorization. With this new form, future check-off monies will be turned over to the union in accordance with the contract.

While this is being worked out, A. C. Stevens, assistant to the works manager, agreed to postpone the January due deductions, scheduled for January 6, until later, so that Local 301 can turn in the authorizations and receive the January check-off money.

Membership Action

The membership meeting Tuesday night voted unanimously to obtain new check-off cards from all in the plant, so as to remove the last pretense of an excuse for the company to hold up the money.

The company has claimed that it could not pay the check-off money to the UE locals because the authorization cards signed identified the UE as "UER & MWA - CIO." This excuse has no foundation, because the contract itself has never carried any reference to CIO, and the contract provides that the dues money must be paid to the UE. GE invented an excuse for interfering with the operation of UE and to help the Carey outfit.

Board Meets Stevens

On Monday the whole 301 Executive Board met with Stevens and proposed that new authorizations be signed which would meet the company's objections, even though the union did not recognize these objections as having any merit. The Board also said the union was prepared to give proof that the workers want the company to pay Local 301 the two months' (Continued on page 2)



UNITE BEHIND UE TO DEFEND GE CONTRACT

Local 301 Expels 71 for Anti-UE Acts

The Local 301 membership meeting Tuesday night unanimously voted to expel 71 members from the union for secession activities and promoting a dual organization, on recommendation of the trial committee elected by a special membership meeting, Dec. 15.

Also on recommendation of the trial committee, the membership dropped similar charges against Joseph Will, Campbell Ave., only member against whom charges were made who appeared Monday at the hearings scheduled by the trial committee. The committee found Will "confused as to the issues." At the membership meeting Will declared his loyalty to UE. He has signed a union allegiance card.

Action on another case, on recommendation of the trial committee, was deferred for further investigation.

Garvey Heads Committee

E. T. Garvey, second shift, Building 273, is chairman of the trial committee and William Stella, Bldg. 5, secretary. The other members are Joseph AhKao, Bldg. 73; Raymond Kidulowski, Bldg. 63; Robert Fowler, Bldg. 10; Jack O'Hara, Bldg. 40B and William Hartje, Bldg. 80.

The trial committee sent notices to all persons against whom charges were filed informing them of the time of their hearing and of their rights. Exhibits attached to the individual cases were application cards for the "Imitation UE" passed out, revocation of dues authorizations passed out and leaflets urging members to leave 301 for the Carey organization.

Each member's case was considered individually on the basis of the evidence concerning that member and solely on the activities of the individual.

Expulsions Necessary

In recommending expulsion, the committee said that "in view of the many attacks being made against trade unions from outside forces, it would be leaving the door open to disaster" to permit individuals the privilege of membership "at the same time that they were actively engaged in destroying the organization."

Dante Scaccia, attorney, who appeared at the hearings Monday, said he represented some accused

members whose names he did not give. He objected to the trial proceedings. The next day both the Gazette and Union-Star gave their usual distorted reports of the procedure, based on fairy tales of the Carey group. They played up Scaccia, who, they said, was attorney for 33 of the accused members. The 33, according to the papers, admitted they didn't consider themselves UE members but were protesting about being expelled. Even their newspaper press-agents couldn't make that sound anything except ridiculous.

The following members were expelled:

Building 10C, George Thompson, Building 13, Fred Nichols.

Building 16, David Bambury, Louis Dumont, Harold J. Price, John Shambo and Edward Young.

Building 17, Dan Beninaso, David Fisher, Henry Hoffman and Kenneth Sheehan.

Building 24, Rose Corbo, Building 28, Steven Lasak, William Reid, Pierce Siler and Marvin Springer.

Building 37, Bernard Valachovic, Building 42, Lawrence Campbell and John Rej.

Building 46, Stephen Cotugno and Henry LaBadia.

Building 49, Joseph Bartkowski, Leland Bellinger, Earl Groat, Frank Stiles, Paul Tries and Stephen Watts.

Building 52, Gary Bonk, Building 53, Ann DiCesio and Leo St. Hilaire.

Building 57, Richard O'Brien, Building 60, Anthony Ollinger, Anthony Perrone and John Warren.

Building 63, Howard F. Happer, Building 68, Walter Piotrowski.

Building 69, Stanley Bishop, Ann Daley, Milton Danko, Carmine Di-Girolamo, William Gleason, Charles Griener, John Kwiatkowski, Hazel Regan and Martin Stanton.

Building 73, Stanley Braut, Clarence Groesbeck and V. J. Van Hoosen.

Building 76, Myles Barry and John Marco.

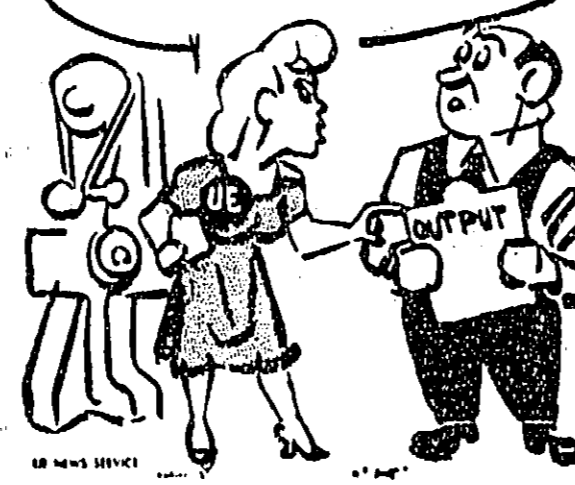
Building 77, Robert Kelly, Building 81, Carrie DiGirolamo and William R. Hughes.

Building 85, Frank Civitella, Building 101, John Moran and Leonard Reichel.

Building 105, Thomas Crawley, M. A. Reucki and Anthony Stal-pinski.

Building 107, William McGowan, Building 205, Chester Sargent, Building 209, Louis Kmetz, John

UE PROTECTS US AGAINST SPEED-UP!



Taft-Hartley Board

(Continued from page 1)

elections is very likely to mean that in many cases contracts will expire before an election is held. The companies can drag out hearings endlessly by raising impossible demands as to what the proper bargaining unit should be.

Here in Schenectady the UE 301 membership is eager for an election, but obviously the company and the NLRB and "Imitation UE" are doing all they can to stall it off far into the future.

The New York Times, which is bitterly anti-UE and pro-Carey, had a revealing sentence in its story from Washington Dec. 20. It said that UE's offer to agree to elections March 15 "has not been accepted, possibly because the IUE will not be ready to take on the UE at all plants by that time."

Doll for Sandra

The Activities Committee of Local 301 sent a big doll to Sandra Ciabotte, 8, on Dec. 9, the day before she died. The little girl, daughter of Anthony Ciabotte, 301 member, had an early Christmas celebration at her home, 225 Cherry St., Schenectady, because her family knew she wouldn't live until Christmas. The doll was Sandra's share of the 301 Christmas party she couldn't attend at Mont Pleasant High School.

J. Niemiec, Mary Orzali, Helen Rector and F. J. Schoeffler.

Building 273, Ray Griener, Charles H. Lewis and John Marshall.

Building 285, Edward Obrowski, Campbell Avenue, Michael Della-Villa.

The special membership meeting last week went on record that Ralph Miranda had removed himself as a trustee and a member of Local 301 by conspiring against 301 and aligning himself with "new imitation union."

An earlier membership meeting had voted that Frank Kriss and Frank Fiorillo had also removed themselves.

Turbine Boring Mill Operators Will Meet

(Continued from page 1)

mer, and was held up on union protest. As explained by Male Tuesday, its immediate effect would be greatest on the big boring mill group. The men felt that it is the start of a move which would have wide-spread effect. Male said that on smaller mills some work would get a lower rate than before and some a higher rate as a result of the move. The union committee took the position that there should be no reduction in rates of any kind.

Under the plan, work now being done on the 12 to 18 foot mills at a timing rate of \$1.45 (AER 2.105) would be divided into roughing and finishing with roughing getting a timing rate of 1.31 (AER 1.945). In J Bay work on smaller mills which had been done at timing rates of 1.21, 1.26 and 1.35 would receive a common rate of 1.26.

Operators present at the meeting pointed out that actually the proposal meant that some work which had been done at the 1.45 timing rate would be downgraded to 1.26. It was also reported that in the bearing section a group on the 4-foot vertical mills with a timing rate of 1.21 had found that supervision was establishing a new rate of 1.06 for roughing without even giving notice to the group or the union. Male said he knew nothing about this cut.

New Check-off Form

(Continued from page 1)

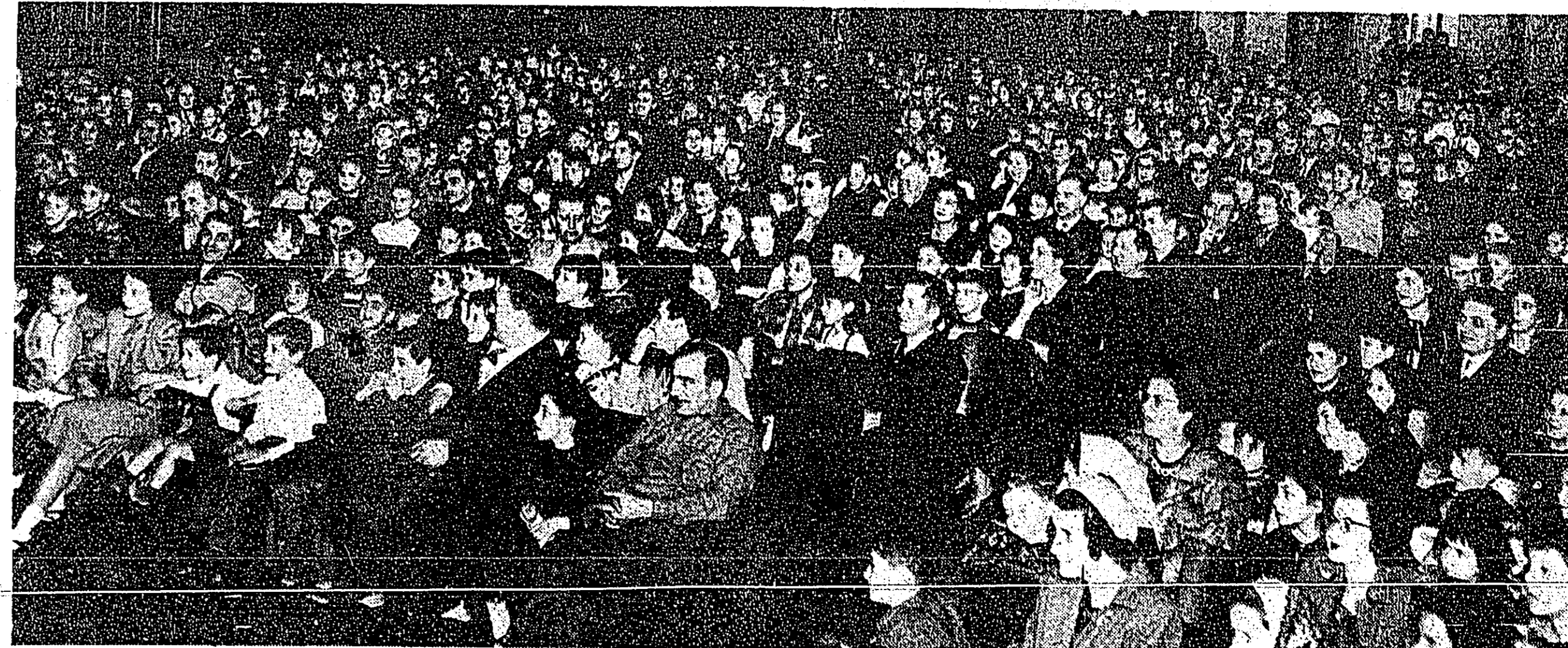
dues GE has held up. Stevens said he must consult with the lawyers. On Tuesday Stevens said he had not been able to get an answer from the lawyers. The membership voted to proceed to get new check-off cards whether the company agreed on the form or not. Leo Jandreau advised Stevens that the union would work out a form to cover the company's objections, and show the company where the workers stood.

On Wednesday Stevens advised Jandreau that the company lawyers were ready to work out a form with the UE's national representatives.

The membership voted to go out both for new check-off cards and for enrollment of non-members. The initiation fee will be waived during the drive.

Because of the withholding of the check-off and the fact that the reserve fund bonds cannot be cashed until Feb. 1, Local 301 has been borrowing money from the national UE treasury to meet current operating expenses and preserve the grievance machinery.

Is There Someone from Your Family in This Picture?



This year's Christmas party for children of the union members was the best yet. Here is a picture of the packed auditorium of the Mont Pleasant High School Saturday, Dec. 10. A picture of the Sunday party will be printed next week.

WSNY Disowns Attack by Kriss

Radio Station WSNY made the following retraction in connection with a broadcast made by Frank Kriss, "Imitation UE" officer, slandering 301 and its officers.

"WSNY calls attention to the fact that Frank Kriss, speaking as a representative of IUE-CIO, on a broadcast of Thursday, Dec. 8th, 1949, made a statement which might be taken to infer improper use of Union funds on the part of officers of UE Local 301.

"WSNY on its part publicly states that no such inference whatsoever was intended. WSNY having no basis in fact denies any agreement with this statement or inference that might be drawn therefrom."

The above statement was made by WSNY during a news broadcast at 6:55 p.m., Dec. 15, after the union protested to the radio station about the lies in the Kriss speech.

Denham Again

UE President Albert J. Fitzgerald this week again called for the dismissal of Robert N. Denham, general counsel of the Taft-Hartley labor board, because of his obvious attempt to stack the NLRB hearings in favor of the Carey "Imitation UE." There is an interesting story to this.

At the 1948 convention of CIO delegates from the UE urged a resolution demanding Denham's dismissal because of his vicious

Which Do You Prefer

Here is a comparison of the CIO's paper "Democracy" versus real democracy.

CIO top leaders charged 10 unions with "Communist" leanings. Members of UE Local 301 charged certain other members with secession activities by promoting the "Imitation UE."

The CIO Executive Board appointed a trial committee. The UE 301 membership elected a trial committee.

The CIO trial committee denied the accused unions the right to have a lawyer present. The UE 301 trial committee gave the Carey boys the right to bring a lawyer, even though he obviously had no intention of discussing the case but only of making a speech for the newspapers.

The CIO trial committee barred members of an accused union from the hearing. UE 301's trial committee allowed all members to attend.

anti-labor actions. The CIO top leaders opposed the proposal because it might embarrass President Truman, who appointed Denham.

By the time of the 1949 CIO convention Denham's record had become so smelly that even Philip Murray called publicly for Denham's removal.

But now Murray and Carey are in bed with Denham, and Carey defends Denham.

Oath of Office

On recommendation of the Executive Board, the 301 membership meeting Tuesday night unanimously voted that before the names of Executive Board members and shop stewards elected for 1950 are sent to Building 41 for recognition, they shall take the following oath of office at the union hall:

"I do solemnly promise, on my most sacred word of honor, before these shop stewards and members assembled, that I will faithfully perform all the duties of the office to which I have been elected to the best of my ability. I will turn over all property of the UE that I may have entrusted to me to my successor. I will never defraud this organization of anything whatever. I will abide by the constitution and by-laws of UE and of UE Local 301. I will at all times regard my affiliation with pride and will help in the success of UE. I will bear true and faithful allegiance to the UE and its membership, and defend it against all who seek to do it harm. I will conduct myself at all times so as never to bring reproach upon the UE."

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Who Is His Boss?

The first job that Frank Fiorillo, field organizer for the "Imitation UE," did after he got on the payroll of the Carey group from a Syracuse National Labor Relations Board election and plug for the Steelworkers instead.

At a Taft-Hartley Board conference on an election at Globe Forge, Syracuse, which has been under UE control for several years, Fiorillo bowed out in favor of his top boss, Phil Murray.

The report in the Syracuse Post-Standard unintentionally gave a hint about how weak the "Imitation UE" really is. Speaking of the deal between the Carey outfit and the Steelworkers, the newspaper said:

"CIO organizers won a major victory for themselves, observers believe, since the solid ranks of steelworkers can apply more pressure and influence in the six days ahead than the newly-formed and loosely co-ordinated IUE could for the contest."

UE Wins Raise

A pay raise of 10½ cents an hour, retroactive to Sept. 24, was won by UE members at GE Supply Corporation, Cleveland, in their new contract negotiated with the aid of the national UE.

Don't Be a Free Rider
Join the Union.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

(NATIONAL ELECTRICAL, RADIO AND MACHINERY WORKERS OF AMERICA, SCHENECTADY GE LOCAL 301)

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