

"CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE"
(cont'd. from pg.1)

The IUD Conference is composed of the following five unions having bargaining rights with the two firms:

Internat. Union of Electrical Workers (IUE)
Internat. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)
Internat. Association of Machinists (IAM)
United Auto Workers (UAW)
American Federation of Technical Engineers (AFTE)

Other delegates returning from the conference were John Shambo, President of Local 301, and Joseph Alois, delegate from the 2nd shift.

**OPPONENTS' DELAYING TACTICS
SEEN THREAT TO FORAND BILL**

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has warned that "delaying tactics" on the part of the Eisenhower Administration, the American Medical Assoc. and the insurance lobby are "threatening enactment" of the Forand bill to provide medical care for the nation's older citizens. With the House Ways & Means Committee expected to vote on the measure next month, the council adopted a statement at its mid-winter session here reiterating labor's support of the bill introduced by Rep. Aime J. Forand (D-R.I.). Passage of the measure is a key plank in the AFL-CIO's 1960 legislative program.

The council said it was "encouraging" that the committee headed by Rep. Wilbur D. Mills (D-Ark) would vote on the bill at an early date. It added that it was "significant" that the Senate Subcommittee on the Aged, headed by Sen. Pat McNamara (D-Mich.) called for enactment this year of legislation "to expand the system of old-age, survivors and disability insurance to include health service benefits."

Write to your Representatives in Congress now. Ask them to support the Forand Bill.

VOLUNTEER WEEK
(cont'd. from pg. 1)

By registering at the Volunteer Bureau, any morning, or by calling FR 2-3395, prospective volunteers may take the first step in learning the rewards of service to the community. Whatever your time or talents -- act now to use them wisely!

BE UNION...
BUY UNION!

\$90.00 BACK PAY!

A recent case in the Tube Dept. points out the importance of a Union to stop the chiselling on the part of the Company on proper starting pay for its employees.

The facts on this case are as follows: Last June a worker who had formerly worked as a Glass Technician Cl. D., was rehired to this job. The Company started him at one step below job rate in spite of the fact that he had formerly held the job and had reached the top rate on it. About five months after being rehired on this job, he was given the top rate on it. Three weeks ago Steward Belak, upon hearing his story, turned in a grievance on advice from Board Member Natonski, requesting the one step pay from the time this man started on the job. The foreman gave the usual unsatisfactory answer.

At a second step level meeting held last week the Union Negotiating Committee (composed of Board Member Natonski and Steward Belak) was able to change the Company's "Attitude" on this. The Company agreed to pay the one step loss in pay incurred for the approximately five month period for which it was not paid. This amounted to a payment of approximately \$90.00 in back pay for this man.

This is another example of how the IUE protects its members.

For the "Guys and Gals in the Shops"

Tune-In WSNY's All New

"EARLY RISERS' CLUB"

Anytime, 6:00-7:30 A.M., Mon. thru Fri.

BIG, BIG PRIZES!

Coming up Soon!

To be eligible ... give your name & Building Number to your Shop Steward

DEMOCRACY

New York (PAI) -- Remember how loud the National Association of Manufacturers bellowed for more democracy in unions?

Recently, when the NAM held its annual conclave in New York, it "elected" new officers and directors. The day before the convention opened the press was handed mimeographed NAM announcements listing all the officers and directors who would be elected.

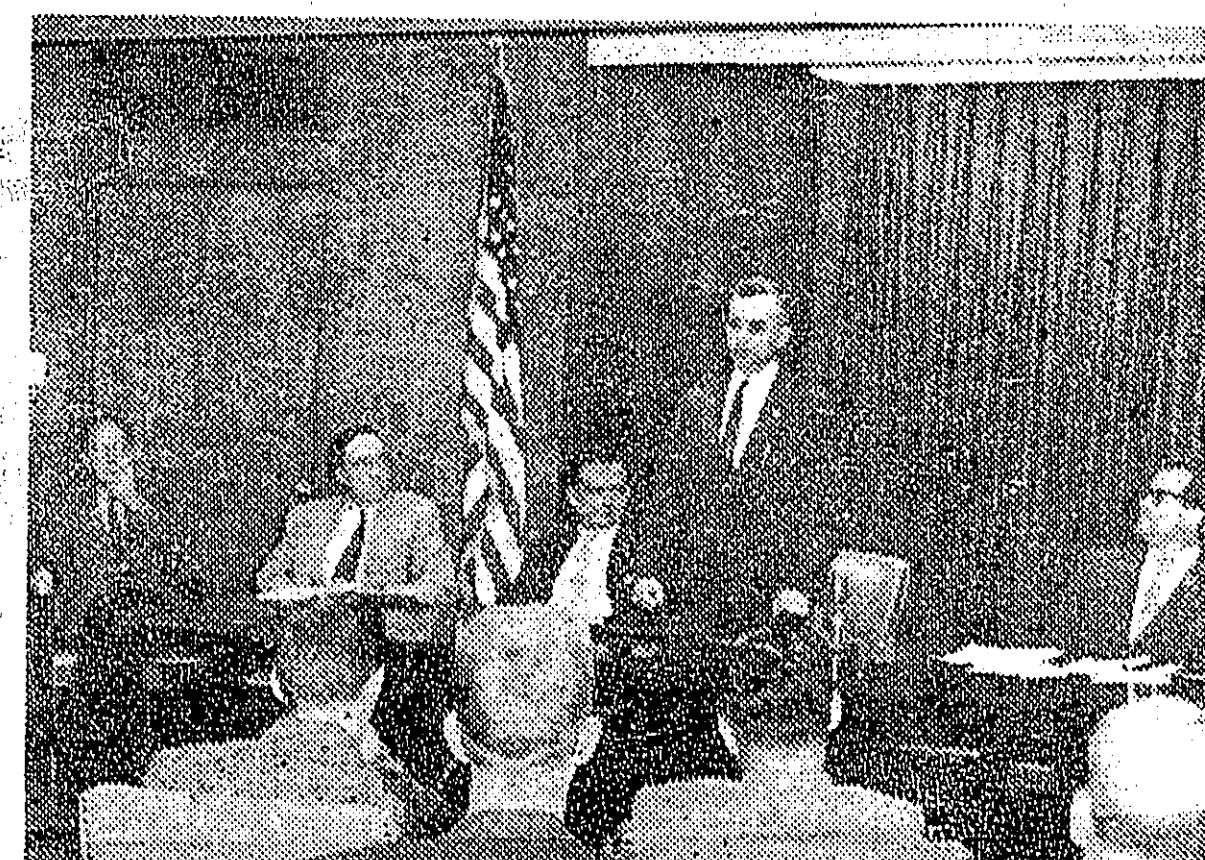
Central Labor Council Opposes Surplus Food Distribution — See Pg. 4

LOCAL 301 NEWS
IUE AFL-CIO

Vol. 7 — No. 8 The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y. March 4, 1960

"THE IUE DOES NOT ADVOCATE STRIKES" — Carey

(The following is part of a report made by James B. Carey, President, International IUE, before the GE Conference Board in Washington, D. C.)



James B. Carey, IUE International President, reports to delegates of the GE Conference Board in Washington, D. C. Leo Jandreau, John Shambo and Joseph Alois represented Local 301.

As we meet here today to determine what we are going to do in order to march forward to a successful contract in 1960, General Electric propaganda says that our Union is looking forward to a strike. All of you know that that is just not true. The reverse is true. No labor leader with any sense goes out looking for strikes. Strikes are a hardship upon employees, upon the communities, and upon the corporation itself. We seek only one thing — and that is to negotiate peacefully, fairly, and equitably a contract which will be of benefit to all concerned. We do not ask for anything more than that to which we are justly entitled. But we do ask for everything to which we are justly entitled and we cannot ask for less.

Our Members' Needs

"How do we determine what we are entitled to? We certainly have a right to look at what other employees in similar corporations have. We have a right to look at what our members need. We have a right to look at what the corporations can afford. If we put all these elements together — our needs, what other employees have, what these corporations can afford — out of that can come a program that we have a right to insist upon.

"In 1955, and again in 1958, we put forward programs to meet the needs that existed then and that exist now. Many of our programs — (Continued on Page 3)

Long Standing LM&G Case Settled

A very troublesome case which has been a constant thorn in our side for the last sixteen months has finally been settled to the satisfaction of everyone involved.

This case originally filed by Steward Campana under Board Member Martin complained that the job rates on the Rim Punch Press jobs were too low due to the skill and responsibility required. This job, since it was being run on three shifts, involved all three shifts. The company's initial and second level answers were unsatisfactory, as usual, and after several meetings on the local level, the case was referred to the N. Y. level. The N. Y. level answer was also unsatisfactory, and due to continued dissatisfaction on the part of the union and the operators on

this job, a further meeting was arranged with the company, with Coordinator Christman, President John Shambo and Board Members Saccocio, Martin and Di Caterino negotiating for the Union. At this meeting a company offer to raise the three R-18 Rim Punch Operators one step to R-19 and a proposal raising the six R-14 operators to R-16 rate was accepted by the Union Committee.

The Union Negotiating Committee is to be commended for their persistence in this case. We feel that a new era of peace between the company and this group has started with this settlement.

**"LABOR LOOKS
AT THE NEWS"**

Dial 1240 — WSNY

Sponsored by Local 301, IUE
Every Sat. 6:45-7:00 P.M.

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301. REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee President John H. Shambo Vice President William J. Kelly Treasurer Pat J. Donato Recording Secretary Roy V. Schaffer Ass't Recording Secretary David Gunn Chief Shop Steward Joseph Mangino Business Agent Leo Jandreau 121 Erie Blvd. Schenectady 5, N. Y.

Editor - Art Christopher

Costs of Health

The high cost of health care involves far more than just doctor and hospital bills, although these seem to spiral ever upward.

Americans, according to the Health Insurance Institute, spent a total of \$16.7 billion on getting well in 1958.

Of this, the doctors got \$4.8 billion, the hospitals got another \$4.5 billion, and dentists \$1.7 billion. Nurses, nursing homes, optometrists, chiropractors, opticians, optomometrists, osteopaths, and the costs of running medical insurance accounted for an outlay of another \$1.3 billion.

With drugs, medicines and orthopedic devices costing a total of \$4.4 billion, it's no wonder that Americans are wondering about the high cost of the wonder drugs. Americans paid out \$5.9 billion for health insurance premiums last year, according to the Institute, which also reported that total benefits paid out by these plans amounted to \$4.7 billion.

Per-capita expenditure on health care in 1958 was \$95.

Everyone Can Get in the Act

Do you have anything to say about the proposed gas price hike by Niagara Power Corp.?

If you do, either pro or con, here's the man who heads the group that will make the final decision:

Mr. James A. Lundy, chairman of the Public Service Commission, 55 Elk St., Albany, N. Y.

Editorial:

Foreign Competition . . .

To hear Big Business tell the story, the average American worker is pricing U. S. goods out of the domestic and foreign markets and doing himself out of a job at the same time.

We are only too familiar with the phrases "constructive attitudes" and "striving to become more competitive."

It is assumed by this propaganda that the American worker can best serve his own interests by accepting fixed or declining wage levels because of the lower hourly wage rates in foreign nations.

These alarmists choose to present the public with a ready-made chamber of horrors. They choose isolated instances and have painted a picture of a business enterprise being "scuttled" by workers who insist on a U. S. standard of living.

When the Tennessee Valley Authority purchased a 500,000 kw generator from Parsons, Ltd., a British firm, the editorial uproar was loud with condemnation of American labor. Westinghouse and General Electric made the most of this situation.

TVA took a look into the problems of U. S. vs. British labor. It found that U. S. labor costs were only \$1.5 million higher than British costs and that the greater manufacturing efficiency of American plants should have compensated for most of the difference.

\$40 a Ton Less

U. S. Steel Chairman Roger Blough is the great purveyor of the foreign competition myth. He cited a case of German barbed-wire, which allegedly sold in Cleveland "at approximately \$40 a ton less than that made right here."

The United Steelworkers has pointed out that this same product would have undersold the domestic market if U. S. workers received no wages at all. Blough's attempt to blame U. S. labor was little more than a propaganda stunt.

Last October, the British and German auto industries were forced to curtail production. Vauxhall Motors, a subsidiary of General Motors, announced that it was reducing production schedules because of a shortage of U. S. Steel. The big German Volkswagen plant announced cuts for the same reason.

U. S. vs Foreign Wages

A study presented to the International Metalworkers Federation last year showed that U. S. steel wages accounted for 36.3% of the sales dollar. While this was the highest in the world, Belgium was right behind with 36.2 cents, and Belgian steelmakers were competing successfully in world markets.

There is little danger that the U. S. dollar will become despised in international commerce, that U. S. wages will drive this nation's products from home and world markets, or that the U. S. will go broke. Half the world's gold supply still remains buried at Ft. Knox.

"Early Risers" Contest Starts Mar. 7

This is Registration Month for WSNY's all new "Early Risers' Club"!

The "Early Risers' Club" includes all of the "Guys and Gals" who work in the shops, AND their families . . . PLUS Everybody Else who has to get up early in the morning.

European Trips, Color Television Sets, Radios, Toasters . . . hundreds of valuable gifts are yours! All these and more can be obtained with the TWO MILLION Triple-S Blue Stamps, which will be given away between 6:00 and 7:30 A.M., on the "Early Risers" portion of WSNY's Morning Music Box Program . . . featuring Steve Fitz, Don Weeks and Bill Duffy starting Monday, March 7th. ONLY the names of those who

REGISTER will be called for these prizes. If you work in the shops at G.E., register your name and building number with your Shop Steward. If you work anywhere else, MAIL your name and the name of your employer to "Early Risers" in care of WSNY. If you're a member of the family, or ANY OTHER "Early Riser" mail your name and address to WSNY, Schenectady. Then . . . TUNE IN WSNY any time you wake up . . . Monday thru Friday, between 6:00 and 7:30 A.M., for full details.

"IUE DOES NOT ADVOCATE STRIKES" — CAREY

(Continued from Page 1)

posals were rejected by the corporation without regard to the needs of the people and without offering counter-proposals. As a result, the GE employees have problems so pressing that a solution to them must be found in 1960.

"Let us here and now pose a challenge to these corporation officials. Let us tell them: 'We will put forward our needs as we see them and as the employees have indicated them in their ballots. We ask you, the corporation officials, since you claim you offer everything voluntarily, to come forward within a reasonable time, with a program to meet these demands and these problems. If you offer an adequate program, we see no reason why we cannot have a harmonious, equitable settlement even before the expiration dates of our contracts.'

"What are the major problems of the GE employees?"

Job Insecurity

"First, and foremost, of course, is the problem of job insecurity. A good deal of this insecurity has been created by these corporations themselves—created by their policy of decentralization of farming-out of work, of irregular schedules, and refusing to permit people to move with their jobs.

"In fact, we charge that these corporations have followed a policy of fostering a feeling of insecurity among the employees and the communities so that they can more easily dominate the economic, social and political life.

"What will they do about the situation in which employment in our major GE plants is still 20% below the levels in 1957, before the recession, while employment in the electrical industry as a whole is above the pre-recession level?"

"What will they do to protect their employees against another recession expected by 1961, in which thousands may again be laid-off for long periods and have to exist on a miserable unemployment compensation? What will they do about those who are permanently displaced and may never return to work and whose loss of income is a hardship not only to themselves but also to the communities?"

"It is not enough for them to answer that 'sales make jobs' and that we should simply rely on that slogan. For example, since 1958 the sales of both corporations

have increased many hundreds of millions of dollars or more than 25%. Yet employment is considerably lower than it was in 1953. So sales have not made jobs.

"It is not enough to tell us that big profits are necessary to build more machinery and equipment to make jobs. We know that although profits have increased tremendously, the number of jobs have decreased.

Fewer Jobs

"We know that since 1953, GE has spent \$1 billion on new machinery and equipment but we have fewer jobs. And of the jobs that are left, more and more of them and more and more of the total employee costs of these companies are for scientists and engineers, and supervisory and executive salaries and bonuses, rather than for the white collar and production workers.

Responsibility

"We want to know what these corporations intend to do to provide a greater measure of security to the communities that have made a home for the companies, made available their facilities, manpower, etc. Will these corporations recognize that they do have a responsibility to them and to their citizens, and if so how do they intend to fulfill it?"

"GE must find a better answer than to tell these communities they must blindly rely upon the wisdom and social consciousness of the corporation officials, for we have seen in instance after instance that they lack social consciousness and they lack a sense of responsibility to the employees and the communities."

Communication

February 26, 1960

Mr. Arthur Christopher Public Relations Officer Local 301, I.U.E. 121 Erie Boulevard Schenectady, New York

Dear Mr. Christopher,

The faculty and student body of Oneida High School are deeply grateful to you for your kindness in extending to us the courtesies of your Saturday evening program in announcing and promoting the Science Fair which was held Tuesday evening. Please accept our sincere thanks.

Sincerely yours, Robert McCullough Assistant Principal

White Collar Pacts in Steel

Contracts between the United Steelworkers of America and the major basic steel firms have been signed for white collar and technical personnel for whom the union holds bargaining rights.

As with the production units, the new agreements are for 30 months and contain benefits equal to those won for production workers.

Under terms of the new pacts, salaried workers will receive a minimum \$5.60 general increase for each two-week pay period plus a job increment of 40 cents bi-weekly on December 1, 1960, and the same increase on October 1, 1961.

The contracts also provide that insurance, hospital and medical benefits will henceforth be fully paid by the companies.

Pensions and supplementary employment benefits were improved in the same measure as in production contracts. Office worker insurance was raised by \$500, making the range from \$5,000 to \$7,500. An automation clause protecting job rights was left intact in the pacts.

Meanwhile, the Steelworkers have won by overwhelming votes a series of company "last offer" ballots conducted by the National Labor Relations Board among hold-out employers. Companies involved included Acme Steel, Pittsburgh Steel, McLouth Steel and other smaller firms.

Pittsburgh Steel had sought to cut incentive rates. Following the rejection of its last offer, it worked out an extension of the old agreement with the union pending further negotiations.

At McLouth, 4,000 workers struck at the end of the injunction period. The 10-day walkout over "local issues" ended when the union and company reached agreement early in February.

BE UNION . . . BUY UNION!

The following are AFL-CIO organized Supermarkets in the Schenectady Area:

- * LOBLAW'S * HIGH HAT * GRAND CASH * All Packing Houses * ACME * Swift's