

Pensioners Support the Forand Bill

By John S. Lindsay, Vice-Pres. Nat. Conf. Bd.
Retired Workers of America, IUE-AFL-CIO

Excerpts and a generalization of the "Congressional Record" pertaining to the benefits of elder citizens, pensioners and their dependents, to be derived by the passage of the Forand Bill. This Bill proposed by the Hon. A. J. Forand in the House of Representatives has passed committee and will be up for debate in Congress in the near future. The IUE-AFL-CIO and the Retired Workers of America are solidly behind its passage.

With the cost of living continuously rising and the increase in hospital, medical and surgical care fast getting beyond the reach of the average working man, The Hon. A. J. Forand, Rep. of Rhode Island, introduced a bill in Congress for improvements in Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance. His program would provide aged persons and their dependents insured under Old Age and Survivors Insurance, protection against the cost of hospitalization, subsequent skilled nursing home care and surgical services.

Men would not necessarily have to be retired at 65 to get these benefits. If they had made sufficient contributions in covered employment, the same benefits would also apply to women at 62 also. Up to 120 days of combined and skilled nursing home services would be paid for in any 12-month period but not more than 60 of these days of hospital service. Hospital services which would be paid include services, drugs, appliances and medical care ordinarily furnished by the hospital to its bed patients. A person who qualifies for hospitalization, nursing home care or surgical services could select any qualified hospital or nursing home. A person eligible for surgical services could freely select a surgeon of his choice. Contribution rates for employer and employee would be one per cent and half per cent each. The contributions would be postponed to 1961.

Where Your Money Goes

PROPOSED 1959 BUDGET

Dues per Member		\$4.00
Per Capita		
National	\$1.50	
District #3	.15	
State AFL-CIO	.02	
Area Council	.02	
		<u>1.69</u>
		\$2.31

AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

Grievance Dept.	.28	
Business Office	.18	
Compensation	.13	
Headquarters	.04	
		<u>.63</u>
Lost Time	.78	
Bldgs.—Main.—Taxes	.19	
Newspaper	.07	
Pension	.20	
Convention & Conference	.04½	
Public Relations	.08	
Insurance	.05½	
Office Supplies & Repairs	.05	
Telephone	.03	
Taxes	.07	
Accounting	.01	
Mortgage	.10	
		<u>\$2.31</u>

Election Committee Reports

The Election Committee made a report to the Executive Board on the election of officers and shop stewards which they conducted in the month of December 1958.

John Saccocio, Chairman, and Miles Moon, Secretary of the committee reported that elections were held covering a total of 442 Shop Stewards. 360 Shop Stewards were reelected and 75 new stewards were elected. There were 6 stewards in whose sections elec-

tions were not completed for various reasons and these were referred to the Executive Board for their consideration. The Executive Board also considered a few protest petitions which will be investigated.

The Election Committee was complimented by the Executive Board for a job well done. They will make their final report to the membership on Monday, January 19th.

Executive Board Recommends Dispersal of M. B. A. Funds

The Mutual Benefit Association was discontinued on October 31, 1955, when the new insurance and hospitalization plan went into effect on November 1, 1955. At that time the funds that were accumulated in the M. B. A. were frozen.

The M. B. A. Plan was constituted originally in June of 1928 and covered the employees only. The plan was amended in October of 1940 to include dependents. The employee coverage only was referred to as Plan A and the dependents were covered under Plan B. At the cut-off date of 10/31/55, Plan A had approximately 291 thousand dollars in its accounts with approximately 29,967 employees participating. In Plan B, as of the same date, approximately 332 thousand dollars had been accumulated with approximately 25,518 covered.

The M. B. A. Plan was in effect in many G. E. plants and was dissolved with the funds paid back to those who were eligible to receive them. Schenectady is the only major plant where this has not been done. There have been many inquiries from our members as to what we are going to do with this money. The Executive Board and Officers after considering this question went on record unanimously at their last meeting to recommend to the administrators of the M. B. A. to work out an equitable procedure to return to eligible employees their share of the funds in the M. B. A. accounts.

Standing Committees For 1959

The following are the Standing Committees for 1959, recommended by the Officers and Executive Board of Local 301:

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

William Linka, #273
Stanley Aldhous, #49
Anthony Campriello, #52
William Kelly, #273
Fay Hildreth, #59
David Stockheim, #273
Larry Gebo, #273

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Whole Executive Board
to Act as sub-committee:
Fay Hildreth, #59
John Wager, #40
Henry Kaminski, #76
James Cagnetta, Leg. Rep. for Local

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Pat Donato, #52
John DeGraff, #85
Charles Brothers, #285
George DeCresce, #18
Leo Jandreaux, Business Agent

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE

William Van Slyke, #40
Sunday Lupi, #49
John Smialek, #273
Ralph Boyd, #40
James Carey, #273

DISCHARGE COMMITTEE

John Saccocio, #52
Miles Moon, #40

BUILDING COMMITTEE

John Shambo, #16
William Kelly, #273
Roy Schaffer, #24
David Gunn, #273
Pat Donato, #52
Joseph Mangino, #49
Leo Jandreaux, Bus. Agent
Charles Brothers, #285
John DeGraff, #85
George DeCresce, #18
A. Christensen, #285
Frank Masterson, #37

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Roy Schaffer, #24
Allen Townsend, Union Office
William Christman, Union Office
Charles Scott, Union Office
Pat Donato, #52
John Saccocio, #52
Henry Kaminski, #76
Joseph Drozdowski, Union Office

William Mastriani, #66
James Carey, #273
Elmer Collis, #273
Thomas McCabe, #273
Philip Cagnetta, #52
Joe Catino, #109
Mario Bagnato, #52
Richard Jendreski, #16
Dominick Lecce, #52
John DeGraff, #85
Ralph Vitallo, Union Office

APPEALS COMMITTEE

Committee of 3 from Executive Board at time the case comes up for appeal

OFFICE WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Whole Executive Board

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

John Shambo, #16
William Kelly, #273
Roy Schaffer, #24
David Gunn, #273
Pat Donato, #52
Joseph Mangino, #49
Leo Jandreaux, Bus. Agent

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 Jandreaux
121 ERIE BLVD. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

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February 6, 1959

R. J. Barber Starts Job At Local 301

Robert J. Barber began his duties this week as administrative assistant to Leo Jandreaux, business agent of Local 301.

Barber's main functions, Jandreaux said, will be the publication of Local 301 News and public information.

Barber recently resigned as assistant city editor of the Schenectady Gazette where he was a staff member for four years.

Prior to coming to Schenectady, he was a newspaper reporter in Vermont and New Hampshire and a radio announcer in North Adams, Mass.

A marine veteran of World War II he served with the first marine division in the South Pacific. He is a graduate of Goddard College, Plainfield, Vt.

Barber, 33, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford H. Barber of 1212 Ninth avenue.

He is married to the former Isabelle Dailey. They have three children and reside at 2516 Watt street.

Seniority Here Protects Jobs Better

Layoffs at the General Electric Co. plants where the IUE is the bargaining agent are continuing but not to the extent of layoffs at GE plants represented by other unions or no union.

For instance, the local at the Erie, Pa. plant, represented by the UE, has suffered so much by layoffs that it can no longer afford a business agent.

UE 506 Union News said "All in all, prospects are gloomy for jobs at the Erie works . . . becoming worse each week."

And a local without the leadership of a full time director is as bad as a ship in a stormy sea without a captain. Obviously, a situation such as that at Erie leaves (Continued on Page 2)

Union Structure to Be Studied for Efficiency

A special committee to study the structure of Local 301 operations at the plant here was recently formed.

The study committee was named because the number of members in the local has dropped from nearly 20,000 to about 10,000 in the last few years.

As a result, the committee pointed out, the structure of operation has become cumbersome and sometimes unworkable.

The committee added that with a reduction in membership there was also a reduction in income but an increase in expenses due to added services.

The committee expects that though there will be some cuts in the number of board members and shop stewards, the over-all operation will become more functional, economic and efficient.

Members of the committee conducting the analysis are John Shambo, building 16, president; William Kelly, building 273, vice-president; Joseph Mangino, building 49, chief shop steward and John DeGraff, building 85, board member.

NOTICE

Executive Board Members must have Membership Survey Reports in by Monday, Feb. 9, 1959.

NOTICE
REGULAR
Executive Board Meeting

Monday, Feb. 9, 1959
7:30 P.M.
UNION HEADQUARTERS
121 Erie Blvd.

Constitution Change Is Urged

The constitution committee recommends that Article XXV which provides fifty cents (50c) per capita to be placed in a strike, defense and building fund be temporarily suspended until the union's income is increased either through increased membership or increased dues income.

With a drop of near 50 per cent

of the membership during the past four years and the increase in lost time payments resulting from the increases in wages in 1957 and 1958, coupled with the increase in cost of living of approximately 7 per cent, which is reflected in the overall increase of administrative expenses, it has been necessary to use the entire dues income to meet the current expenses of the union's operation.

The constitution committee in its recommendation to suspend Article XXV temporarily is in hopes that the membership growth or other ways and means to increase the union's income will be realized in the near future in order that the special fund provision in this Article will again function.

The committee has already met with the city board of education seeking advice on how best to set up such a scholarship.

Masterson pointed out that if 10,500 members of Local 301 donated twenty-five cents each, the scholarship fund would reach \$2,625.

Sherry Thanks Local 301 for Christmas Gifts

Sherry Timlick is 11 years old. She lives at the Schenectady Children's Home.

She received some gifts at Christmas time from Local 301. This is the note the local received from her last week:

Dear Friends:

Thank you for the wonderful toys you gave to us. And I know all the other children thank you. We have 13 girls in our department. We are in the J.R. girls.

Your friend,
Sherry Timlick,
11 years old.

But that's not all. At the bottom of the letter the little girl had (Continued on Page 2)

Forand Bill Support Is Stepped Up

Local 301's retired workers have stepped up their campaign to force passage of the "Forand Bill" scheduled to come before Congress shortly.

John S. Lindsay, vice-president of the national conference board of Retired Workers of America, Local 301, IUE-AFL-CIO, has written Congressman Samuel S. Stratton urging him to support the bill.

Lindsay said Stratton and State Senator Owen M. Begley both appear to favor such legislation.

Lindsay added the Forand Bill "practically means life or death to a great many of those on social security, whose pensions are here- (Continued on Page 2)