

LOCAL-301 NEWS

IUE-AFL-CIO

Vol. 9, No. 11 The Voice of G.E. Workers, Local 301 March 16, 1962.

KEATING, JAVITS ACKNOWLEDGE PETITIONS

On March 2nd, the Union Office submitted 4,000 signatures to Senators Keating, Javits and Congressman Stratton, urging them to support the King-Anderson Bill.

The King-Anderson Bill would provide medical care for the aged under the Social Security System.

The following comments were made by Senator Keating in a letter to our members: "I deeply appreciate your getting in touch with me and assure you that the views of union members in the Capital District area will receive my most careful consideration when the King-Anderson Bill comes up for a vote in the Senate". He also wants to assure our members that he is deeply interested in the health care needs of our nation's senior citizens.

It is interesting to note according to the comments made by Senator Javits in his letter to our members that he has finally decided medical care for the aged should be tied in with the Social Security Program, with some reservations, however.

Javits' letter reads as follows: "I would like to thank the members of Local 301, IUE-AFL-CIO, for bringing to my attention their views regarding medical care for the aged.

"Because of my deep concern with this issue and the demonstrated need for such help, I am determined to bring a Federal health care program before the Congress and to persevere in the effort to have it enacted into law.

"After trying for a long time, I do not believe a program depending upon general revenues, such as the one I previously introduced, can become law; I have, therefore, introduced a compromise bill which accepts the Social Security approach for financing but also includes those who do not receive Social Security benefits and gives a very important opportunity to private health care."

Senator Javits states that he appreciates having the views of our members on this important issue and gives assurance that he will give them every consideration as this legislation develops in the Senate.

NOTICE

MEMBERSHIP-STEWARDS MEETING

Monday, March 19, 1962

2nd shift.....1:30 p.m.
1st & 3rd.....7:30 p.m.

Regular Order of Business
Reports of Committees
Annual Report of Trustees

Union Auditorium
121 Erie Boulevard

G.E. SLOGAN LAYS AN EGG by Allen E. Townsend

Recently Union Headquarters was contacted by a former worker in the local plant. He wanted to find out what his chances were for re-hiring. Union Headquarter's records indicated that he had been on lack of work for slightly over two years and had left the plant with 1950 service.

A call was made by the Ass't. Business Agent to Plant Labor Relations asking them to rehire this man. The answer was as follows: "Not now, we have better candidates." This answer was given even though it is a known fact that the local G.E. has been hiring many people with no service at all in the past two weeks.

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G.E. SLOGAN (Cont'd.)

If this man was rehired now, his service would adjust to 1952.

Upon further questioning, we could get no admission from the Company that this man had a bad record. However, due to the fact that he has been out past his recall date, the Company has no legal responsibility to give him a job.

We as a Union strongly suspect that the Company is discriminating against this man for the following reasons: If rehired, he would qualify for severance pay if subsequently laid off. His pension rights would be immediately reinstated. He would qualify for vacation after being back for one month.

In view of the above facts, we strongly feel that the Company has forgotten their moral obligations to this worker who faithfully worked for them for nine years.

We seriously doubt if actions such as this will prove the slogan "PROGRESS IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT PRODUCT".

We feel that a slogan more befitting would be "PROFIT IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT PRODUCT".

PLANT OVERTIME REDUCED

Overtime worked in the plant from the beginning of 1962 to the end of February was reduced approximately 4 hours per man.

At the start of this year the average hours worked per week were 44.6. The figures at the end of February showed the work week down to 40.6 hours, a reduction of 3.9 hours. This downward trend in overtime has affected the total work force in the plant. It has greatly curtailed the number of layoffs which had been anticipated and has also resulted in the hiring of additional employees in some departments.

A spot check made of the various departments indicates that approximately 240 employees have been reengaged. The MAC and Gas Turbine Depts. have each employed about 100 people and are presently in the process of hiring more. SAC Dept. figures show an increase of 40 additional employees. The general overall employment outlook appears much brighter now than it did one year ago. The consensus of opinion is that this trend will continue well into 1962 barring unforeseen developments.

KEATING, JAVITS (Cont'd.)

On March 13th, our Union Office submitted 1,500 additional signatures to our representatives in Congress.

Our office is awaiting return of petitions from the Local's Pensioners' Club and the Schenectady Area Central Labor Council.

MUNIER CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE

Charles Munier, Bldg. 66, has announced his candidacy for the office of Trustee in the Village of Ballston Spa.

Bro. Munier was appointed to this office last year to fill one of two vacancies which existed on the Board of Trustees.

It is requested that union members residing in Ballston Spa give Bro. Munier consideration when they go to the polls next Tuesday, March 20th.

The AFL-CIO advocates and encourages members of organized labor to seek public office.

Bro. Munier has been active in Local 301 for many years. He has held the position of Shop Steward for 12 years. He is also Treasurer of the Welded Products Benefit Association.

SLRB ISSUES COMPLAINT AGAINST MIKE ROTH'S

The above heading caps an article which appears in the Feb-Mar. issue of the Local 471 "Banner", a publication printed for the benefit of members of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union of the Capital District.

The article states that in Jan., Michael Roth's Restaurant, doing business on upper Union St., in Schenectady, has been ordered by the Minimum Wage Division of the N.Y. State Labor Dept. to pay a kitchen worker over \$600 in overtime pay to which he was entitled. On Feb. 21, 1962, the N.Y. State Labor Relations Board issued a complaint against Roth's on upper Union St., alleging that the firm is guilty of unfair labor practices.

Roth's troubles do not end there. The firing of a waitress and a cook has resulted in the filing of another complaint which alleges that the two workers were fired "for reasons that they joined or assisted the Union and engaged in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining and other mutual aid and protection".