

6 Day Week Planned For 860 in Turbine

Approximately 860 Turbine workers in Bldgs. 49 and 60 will be put on a six-day schedule of three shifts of seven and a half hours each Aug. 11, GE management has notified the union. Other parts of Turbine do not have a third shift, so their hours will not be changed.

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, reported his estimate of the number of workers affected as 546 in Bldg. 60 and 317 in Bldg. 49. Of the Bldg. 60 group, 295 are on the first shift; 154, second shift and 97, third shift. In Bldg. 49 those affected are 158 on the first shift, 108 on the second and 51 on the third.

Jobs to Be Affected

Gallery workers in Bldg. 60 will not have their hours changed, but the following employes on the main floor are affected: hydrostatic test workers, chip-pers, layout, welders, plumbers, steam-fitters, ladders, erectors, floor assemblers, painters, crane men, crane followers, tool crib attendants, sweepers and inspectors.

Bldg. 49 has no hydrostatic test work, but all the other jobs listed as affected in Bldg. 60 are also affected in Bldg. 49. In addition, all people in the bucket group, including their inspectors, are covered by the change.

Meeting of Committeemen

General opposition to the announced schedule was voiced at a meeting of Turbine stewards Wednesday. They will take a poll of the members in Turbine.

James Burnison, GE executive, indicated July 17 at a conference in New York City that the six-day, seven and a half hour week might be installed. He mentioned it at the grievance session at the national level at which he turned down all suggestions of the union for settling the complaints of third shift Turbine workers about their hours.

The workers objected to having to work Saturday to complete a 40 hour week. They wanted a straight eight hour, five day week.

Get Carboloy Tools

As a result of a protest by Shop Steward E. H. Brennan, management has reversed its stand about refusing to furnish carboloy tools to men being broken in on machines in Bldg. 60. Brennan pointed out that the people assigned to break in the men have been using carboloy tools right along. Management agreed that the men being broken in could have the tools too.

Farmers Union Gives Meat to Remington Rand Strikers



This cow beef, donated by the Farmers Union of Otsego County to UE strikers at the Remington Rand plants in Iton and Herkimer, made appetizing beef stew for the pickets. The strike was won last week. See story on page 1.

Labor Unity

This is the resolution on Labor Unity adopted by the membership meeting July 15, to be introduced in the national UE Convention:

"Whereas, the passage of the Taft-Hartley bill and the many attacks upon labor in the past year have shown the urgent need of unity of all branches of labor to defend our rights and our American liberties, and

"Whereas, unity of labor is essential if we are to elect a Congress which will repeal the Taft-Hartley law and return to the policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt,

"Now therefore, Be it Resolved, "That this Twelfth Convention of UE call for continuing efforts to unite the CIO, AFL, Railroad Brotherhoods and all other branches of organized labor into one general organization of affiliated unions, and

"Be it further Resolved, "That while negotiations for uniting labor continue, we should press for the utmost joint action, both economically and politically, of all branches of labor, in the nation, in every state, and in every community."

MAKE YOUR SHOP 100% UE

It Seems Shop Stewards Aren't Allowed to Talk

The Roy Lash freedom of speech grievance has been sent to the New York level by the Executive Board.

Shop Steward Lash was given a warning notice recently because he and a group of workers talked over the carboloy speed-up situation while they ate their lunches together near the dart board in Bldg. 60. The charge was holding a meeting on company property. It was the kind of lunch hour group you'll find every day, anywhere in the shops.

A. C. Stevens, assistant to the general superintendent, told a grievance session that the steward did the talking so the lunch get-together was a meeting.

Farmers Speak Up

The July issue of "The Farmers Defender", Farmers Union paper, says, "A big chunk of Americanism went out of the window when the Taft-Hartley bill was passed over the President's veto.—The end product is lowered purchasing power for working people."

301 Veterans

The Veterans' Center is open at 301 Hall from 1 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Friday.

Electrical Union News

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Turbine Division Meetings Called

UE Attorney Speaks On Taft-Hartley Law

"Protect the contract in your shop and get started on political action or it will be too late."

This was the advice David Scribner, UE general counsel, gave to Local 301 stewards at their meeting Tuesday night, in addition to explaining in detail the workings of the Taft-Hartley law.

The Truman Administration must take considerable blame for the enactment of the law, Scribner told the stewards. The Democratic leaders didn't bring back to Washington several Senators who would have supported the veto, and they didn't take the steps which could have blocked the bill's passage.

Now that it is in effect, the Taft-Hartley law should not be approached from the viewpoint of "what it prevents us from doing," Scribner said.

"We must see to it that the backers of the law don't achieve their aim of cutting the throats of the workers."

Speedy Service for Employers

The UE attorney said the number one objective of the Taft-Hartley law is to encourage employers to file unfair labor practice charges against unions. Under the Wagner Act, it sometimes took years for orders against employers to be obtained and enforced. Under the new law an employer can file a charge against a union on a flimsy pretext and have the general counsel of the Labor Board get an injunction against the union in a few weeks.

GE Contract Valid

Scribner said that under the new setup, it may take five years for a union to get an election.

"The Taft-Hartley Board is no more than an employer agency functioning with full government backing and paid for out of your taxes," he said.

"That's why Steel, UE and other unions will have no part of the Board."

Scribner declared the GE contract is valid until it expires in April, 1948. After (Continued on Page 2)

Former WAC Refused Vacation by Company

The union is fighting for the right of a former WAC to have an unbroken service record with General Electric and a summer vacation.

Miss Dorothy Caringi, now in Bldg. 60, asked for a release from GE during the war to join the WAC. She said her foreman told her that if she enlisted she could consider herself fired and that she would not be reemployed. She had already signed up, however, and was to leave for training camp in a day or two, so she didn't argue the point further.

When the war ended and she was discharged from the WAC, she didn't return to her job within the 90 day period because she thought she didn't have a job. In March she told her story to the U. S. Employment Service office which told her to go to GE at once and to report back if she had any trouble getting reemployment.

The company put her to work immediately, Mar. 28, and paid her the bonus it should have paid when she entered military service. But when vacation time came around, it skipped her. When she asked for her vacation, she was informed she isn't entitled to any because her service record is broken. The case has been sent to the Howell level.

New Shop Steward Wins First Case

Information which he obtained at one of the special sessions for stewards helped Donald Oliver, new steward in Bldg. 85, win back pay for a worker in the first grievance case he handled.

On the basis of Oliver's well prepared docket, the foreman agreed that the worker should have received a four cent progression increase May 15, instead of nearly three months later.

Workers Object To New GE Plan For 6 Day Week

The union has called special meetings of all members in the Turbine Division for Monday and Tuesday at 301 hall to take action on the new six-day work schedule slated to go into effect Monday.

Day shift workers will meet at 3:45 p. m. Monday and second shift workers at 1:30 p. m. Tuesday. The third shift can attend either session. The groups are in Bldgs. 49, 60, 273 and the front end of 52.

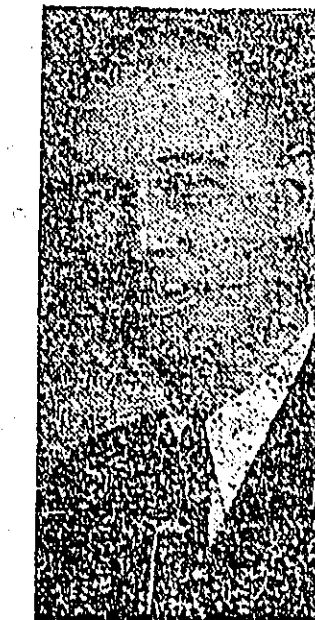
Under the new plan, which has aroused strong protests throughout the Division, there will be three shifts working seven and a half hours six days a week. About 860 workers are to be affected immediately.

Stewards and rank-and-file members were quick to brand the new schedule a way for the company to get eight hours of work for seven and a half hours pay. The move is of deep concern to Turbine workers not yet affected and to the rest of the plant, for fear it may be extended.

A poll taken by stewards among the Turbine Division shows strong opposition to the plan. Of the first 600 polled, 98 per cent objected to the change and about 95 per cent of the workers stated they would not work Saturday overtime. The questionnaires were still coming in when this week's issue of EU News went to press.

The new work schedule, Turbine stewards have declared, is related to the recent difficulties the union has had with management over carboloy tool speed-

(Continued on Page 2)



Wm. Stewart

UE Attorney Speaks On Taft-Hartley Law

(Continued from Page 1)

that, he explained, there will not be union security (maintenance of membership) in the contract.

"But union security does not always have to be written in a contract. American workers in the shops can figure out ways of seeing to it that they have actual union security in the shops, and that the union is protected."

Any union "security" obtained through the new Board would be phony, Scribner predicted, and might take five years to get.

He discussed the provision for filing affidavits with the Board that union officers are not Communists. The backers of the law are depending on some form of disunity in the labor movement to make this plan work, he pointed out. He mentioned the "gang" in Bridgeport who rushed to say "We're pure" and volunteered to sign affidavits.

Effort to Intimidate

The purpose of the provision is to split the labor movement, Scribner warned, and "to create fear among the workers in a shop that the man who does the best job on grievances may be a Communist and maybe we shouldn't elect him."

"If you allow that to go on," Scribner said, "the government can tell you who to elect. And then you'll have a Hitler labor front instead of a union."

Scribner said the only answer to such efforts at intimidation is for union members to judge men on the record of what they do for the workers on the job.

Affidavits and financial information have to be filed only if a union wants to use the Board. The policy of most CIO and AFL unions is to have nothing to do with the Board.

Provisions allowing employers to sue the union are designed to frighten union members, the attorney pointed out.

"You want to live up to the contract. Union discipline in a shop has always meant strength. Then when there has to be a display of economic strength, the



union will be ready for the showdown. It will not depend on wild cat action."

Scribner said the attempt to prevent unions from publishing the records of Congressmen was unconstitutional.

"There's no law that can prevent political action by the workers," he declared.

GE Pressure Charged In German Situation

James S. Martin, recently resigned official in the American military government in Germany, has charged the General Electric Company with being one of several "special interest groups" seeking to "push our government into a position of having to oppose Communism by sponsoring in one form or another, monopoly control in Germany." Martin was chief of the decartelization branch of the American military government in Germany.

He declared GE and other groups had "queered our relations with Russia and are now well on the way to doing the same with France." He said he resigned "to make clear to the American people — that there is a possibility of an alternative to permitting the re-creation of a powerful, monopolistically controlled Germany."

Meetings Are Called For Turbine Workers

(Continued from Page 1)

The company has refused to recognize that increased production should mean a chance to make increased earnings.

A Turbine stewards' committee, headed by William Stewart, Board member for 49 and 60, was to meet today with Louis Male on this question. The committee includes:

Roy Lash, Leland Sisto, Emmett H. Brennan, R. H. Frederick, Michael Whittle, E. R. Fainell, Joseph H. Hallenbeck, A. C. Signor and Gabriel Maitino.

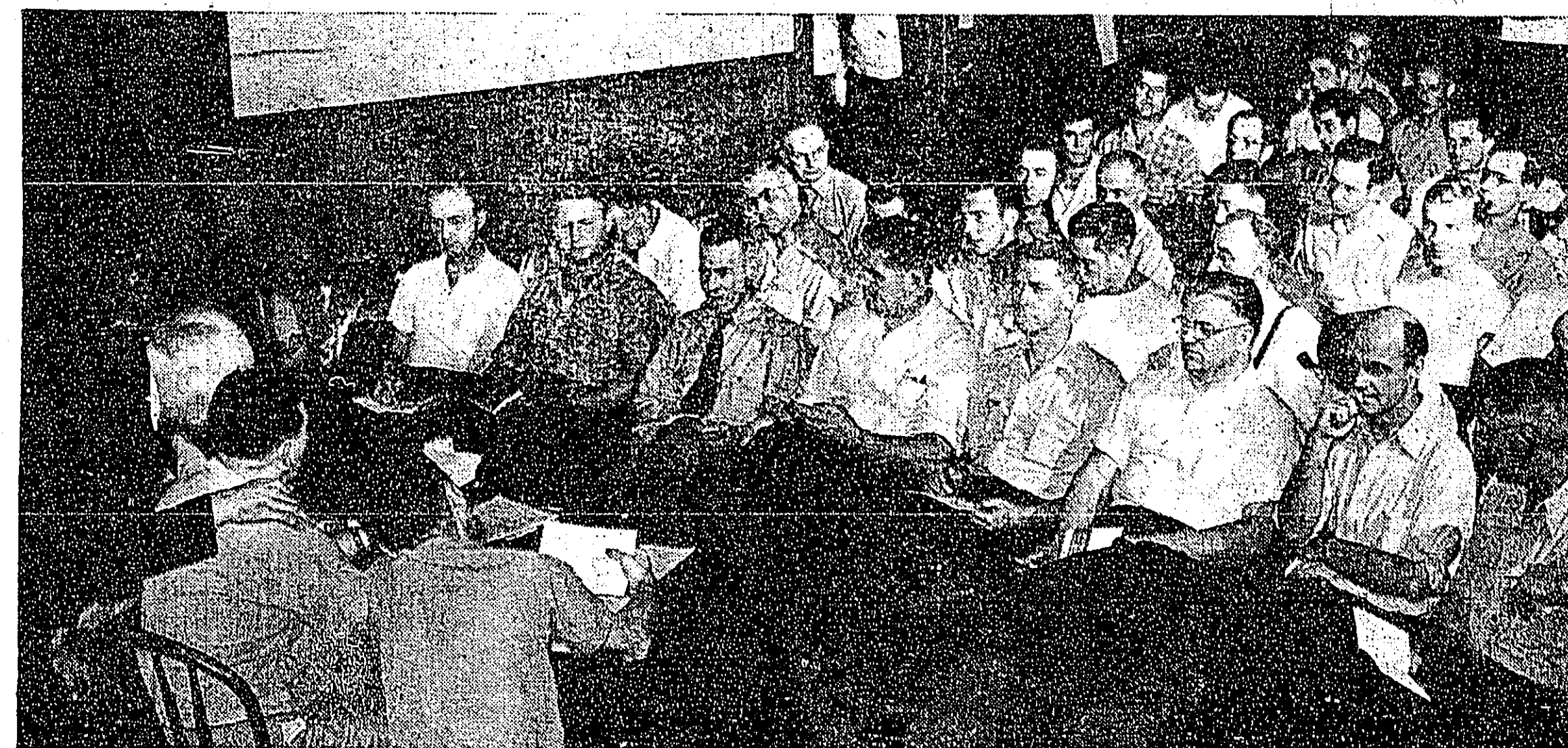
Stewards Approve Sending 10 to State CIO Session

The 301 shop stewards' meeting Tuesday night approved an Executive Board recommendation that 10 delegates be sent to the State CIO convention, five chosen by the Board and five to be elected at the Aug. 19 membership meeting.

Leo Jandreau, Andrew Peterson, Dewey Brashear, James Cognetta and Mary McCartin were named by the Board and approved by the stewards.

The convention will be Sept. 4, 5 and 6 at Saratoga Springs.

Stewards Find a Lot to Talk About at Special Session



A special meeting of shop stewards from the two sections consisting of Bldgs. 18, 18A, 40 and 40B, at 301 Hall Monday. It was one of a series of section meetings called for stewards to discuss various problems of the local. In left foreground,

left to right, President Andrew Peterson, Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani and Victor Pasche, assistant to the business agent. William Kelly, another assistant to the business agent, is hidden by Peterson.

GE Penny Pinching Proves Inefficient

The current GE program of keeping labor costs down took a peculiar turn in Bldg. 46 during the past week.

To back up their position over a two-cent dispute on a drill press job on a casting with a price of \$1.28, Foreman F. J. Eiser and Ernest Doin, piece rate man, insisted on so many time studies that they sent two operators home, ill from the nervous strain, and tied Eiser up for fifteen hours and Doin for 21 hours. The work was in such rush demand that supervision had intended to keep the operator working overtime.

The two-cent difference would have amounted to 60 cents per week in total earnings.

After a time study on two pieces Wednesday, July 30, the operator was offered a price of \$1.28. The operator's steward, William Hoffman, said it was too low, but offered to settle on \$1.30. When that was refused, Hoffman suggested the operator try out the price for a week. Instead, Eiser and Doin decided to start another time study the next day. This made the operator so nervous he reported sick the rest of the week.

Evidently Just the Man For Taft-Hartley Board

President Truman has appointed Robert N. Denham, Republican, as general counsel to the new Labor Board under the Taft-Hartley Law.

Upon his appointment, Denham said he once enrolled as a Democrat, in 1935, to be able to fight President Roosevelt from within the Democratic Party.

Then Eiser and Doin decided to continue the time study on Hoffman himself. They went through Thursday, Friday and part of Monday, with Doin present all the time, and Eiser present most of the time. When Hoffman asked how long this would go on, they said it would continue until they had "enough data".

By Monday Hoffman himself was so nervous that he had to stop. Eiser sent him to the plant medical office, where one of the GE doctors told him he had better stop for the rest of the day, because of a nervous condition brought on by the ceaseless time study.

The last word is that the \$1.28 price stands, subject to the operators trying it out.

Series of Meetings Held For Stewards

Stewards' work under the new contract and their problems under the Taft-Hartley law were the subject of full discussion at group meetings of stewards held last week and this week, concluding today. Those stewards who missed the meetings because of vacations will be called in later.

Emphasis in the discussion was placed on the fact that the company's attitude has become tougher and it is aided by the new law, but the work of the union and its stewards in enforcing the contract continues as before. There must be increased discipline, so that any action is the result of a decision by the entire membership.

President Andrew Peterson pointed to the Taft-Hartley law and the un-American Committee hearings as proving the urgent need of labor political action to fight the drive against labor and democracy. He urged the collection of PAC dollars and participation by the members in PAC work.

William Mastriani, chief steward, presided over the meetings, and checked on whether all groups had steward representation as required by the constitution.

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