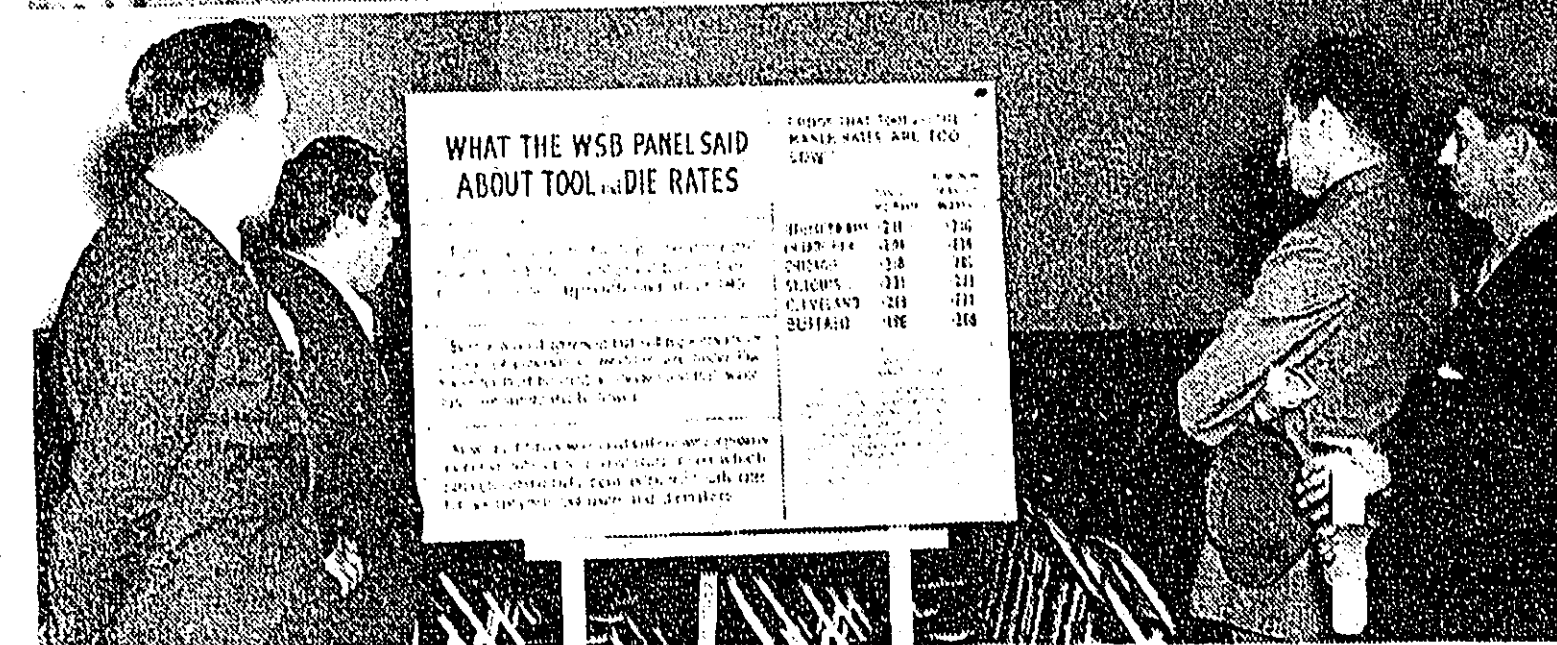
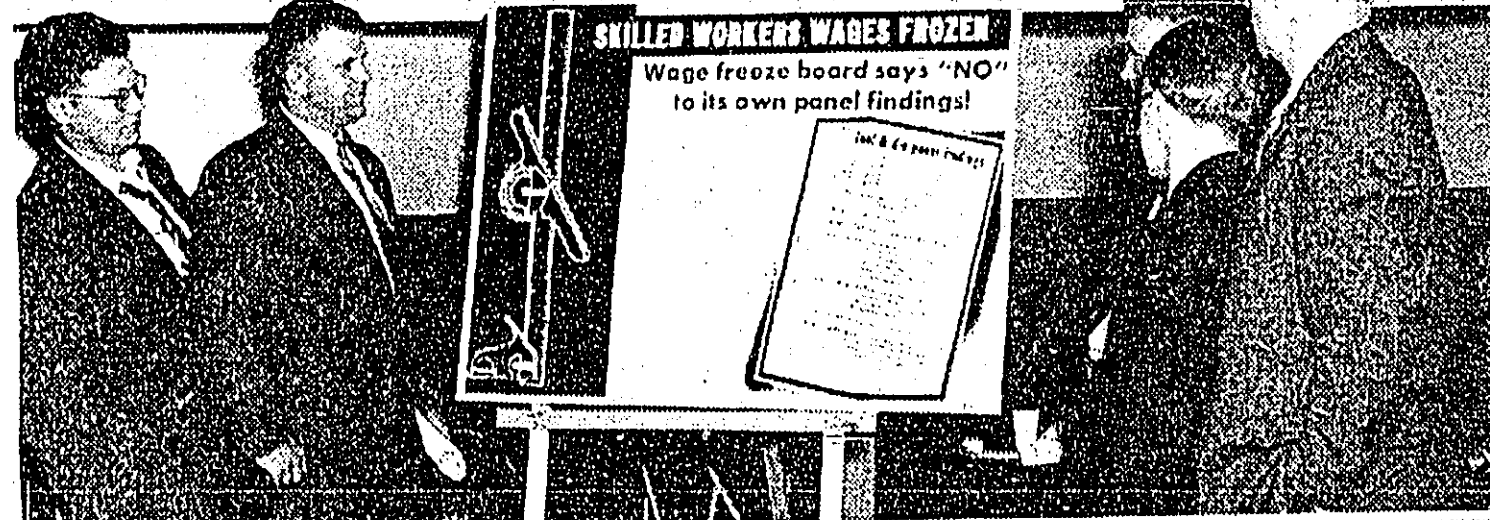


SOLIDARITY IN SYRACUSE. '301' skilled craftsmen journeyed to upstate conference by chartered bus. (right) Reading down, craftsmen read exhibit on higher wage ceilings a WSB panel recommended, the continuations committee hold its first session, craftsmen look over WSB panel and government surveys. Bottom right are seen William Templeton, GE Schenectady electrician from '301', chairman, and Fred Cacchione, toolmaker of Remington-Rand in Elmira, IAM-AFL Lodge 826, secretary.



Put the WSB Recommendations INTO EFFECT



Unity Keynotes Syracuse Upstate Skilled Craft Wage Conference

Skilled craftsmen from many different shops and many different unions set an example of the united action needed in the labor movement today to wage an effective fight against the wage freeze and the stepped-up fight that employers are waging against the entire labor movement, at the upstate New York Tool-Die-Skilled Craftsmen's Conference held in Syracuse on Sunday, May 25.

The union label—or the lack of one—wasn't important. What was important was "discussing and planning a common fight on a common problem that we share in common in all plants—ending the employer-created freeze on skilled craft rates," as the craftsmen stated in a resolution adopted at the conference.

The reasons for acting unitedly were summed up by delegates when they declared: "The same type of action that employers engage in is required to end the discrimination against skilled craftsmen and raise their rates."



La Porte, Ind.—UE's national battle to end discrimination against women workers bore fruit as UE Local 912 won a special 15 cent wage increase at the Harvell Manufacturing Co. The boost wipes out the differential between men's rates and those for women, and for the first time brings the women's scale above that for common laborers. Feature of the fight which resulted in the breakthrough was the complete cooperation of the men working at Harvell. With the new increase, the largest group of women in the shop are now receiving 46 cents an hour more than they got two years ago when UE first organized Harvell.

★ ★ ★

Cleveland—A 20 cent an hour wage increase will head the list of demands that the CIO United Rubber Workers will make on behalf of an estimated 200,000 employees of the rubber industry's Big Three, the union has announced. Negotiations with the Firestone, Goodrich and Goodyear companies will get under way this month.

★ ★ ★

Wausau, Wis.—Labor unity here has hoisted the 600 members of UE Local 1113, locked out by the Marathon Electric Manufacturing Corp. since the end of February. A statement endorsed by the central councils of both the CIO and AFL in this area attacked the company for its refusal to bargain with UE and pledged that their unions would not be "used as tools of the company" which has sought to incite the AFL to raid at Marathon.

★ ★ ★

San Francisco—The AFL Sailors Union of the Pacific went on strike this week after ship owners had refused to budge on union demands for a five per cent wage increase and overtime pay for Saturday work. SUP Secretary-Treasurer Harry Lundberg asserted that his union was in a strong position for a long strike if necessary.

★ ★ ★

Bridgeport, Conn.—A raid by the IUE-CIO at the Columbia Record Co. was rebuffed by UE Local 237 members to the tune of 388 for UE to 317 for IUE-CIO.



FRATERNAL SUPPORT: UE Local 301 Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani congratulates Mica workers at a May 26 meeting for filing a petition for an NLRB election to designate UE as their bargaining agent. (See Story, page 4). Mica UE Local 311 Vice President Leonard Wronkowski is on Mastriani's left and recording secretary Angie Barnes on his right.

Threaten All Out Fight If GE Terminates Pact

A warning to the General Electric Company that it would face an all out fight from Local 301 if it sought to terminate its contract with the UE was sounded this week by '301' Business Agent Leo Jandreau.

Speaking at the Monday night general membership meeting, Jandreau declared that GE might serve notice of termination on June 15. Under the terms of the contract with UE, either side can serve notice of termination 90 days before contract expiration. The contract expires Sept. 15.

The business agent of the largest local in UE, which represents the workers in the largest works of GE, expressed the determination of the Union to defend the interests of the workers against any company union-busting tactics with all the power at Local 301's command.

Get Out The Vote Drive Aided by '301'

The Executive Board last week approved participation of UE Local 301 in a Schenectady county-wide "Get Out the Vote" campaign. It approved the appointment of Recording Secretary Rudy Rissland as the union's representative on a committee which will run the drive.

The committee will operate on a non-partisan basis with the aim of encouraging "by every means available every eligible voter in the county to register and vote in this fall's election."

WPTR 5:05 Program In Final Week

UE Local 301 completes its second week of nightly radio broadcasting today as a part of its campaign to end discrimination against women workers. The broadcasts will continue through next week and can be heard over station WPTR (1540 on your dial) from 5:05 to 5:15 p.m.

The '301' shows have featured roundups of labor news and commentary around the nation—the kind of reporting seldom heard on the air these days—and spontaneous interviews with women workers from the GE Schenectady works.

The commentary is handled by Bill Moody, national UE publicity representative. Thus far, women workers interviewed include Harriet Attenhorn, Alice Crowningfield, Helen Nichols, Ethel Furman, Mary Nuzzaco, Helen Quirini and Mary Scrozski.

All of the women described their jobs and pointed out that men doing identical or nearly identical work were receiving 30 and 35 cents an hour more "because they are men and we're women."

Syracuse Women's Conference To Be Held On June 15

The fight to end discrimination against women workers will be given a new push on Sunday, June 15, when delegations from throughout upstate New York will meet in Syracuse for a state-wide women's conference.

UE Local 301 will be fully represented at the conference. It was announced at the Monday night membership meeting that buses are being chartered to carry the Schenectady delegation to Syracuse where the conference will get underway at the Hotel Onondaga, beginning at one o'clock in the afternoon.

For UE Local 301, the women's conference will be another phase in a long hard-hitting campaign to raise women's rates to the same levels as those being paid to men working at the same jobs. This campaign was kicked off on May 7 with the tremendously successful women's demonstration at the GE Subway Gate.

Since then local officers and stewards have been doing everything possible to acquaint GE workers with the importance to both men and women of ending the discrimination in pay by which the big corporations make more than \$5 billion in extra profits every year.

Dance Tomorrow

Music and merrymaking galore are on tap tomorrow night at the Edison Club in Rexford where UE Local 301 is holding its Spring Dance.

The doings are scheduled to begin cooking along about nine o'clock and they'll continue into the small hours of Sunday morning. The workers at the Mica Insulator Co. plant, who have just filed a petition for an election to make UE their union, will be special guests at the affair.

Tickets are still available from local officers and shop stewards and at the door Saturday night. The tab is only 80 cents.

STUFF and NONSENSE

from • GE Works News • Boulware's Newsletter

With this issue we begin a new column to counter the pap that GE puts out through its propaganda mill.

Why is it GE officials find lots of articles for their columns on how tough things are for newspapermen in Czechoslovakia, cab drivers in Timbuctoo, dog-catchers in England and chimney sweepers in Pakistan—but never a word on how it feels to be laid

off by GE in Eric, underpaid in Newark, overtaxed in Cleveland or speeded-up in Schenectady?

★ ★ ★

GE favors "good wages." But it won't give its employees a wage increase.

GE favors high employment.

But is laying off all over the country.

GE is opposed to inflation. But it raised its prices so high that it can't sell what it speeded-up its workers to produce.

GE favors free enterprise. But it has been indicted, tried and convicted time and again for being a monopoly and driving out competitive business.

GE favors democracy. But it has proposed that the government outlaw labor unions it doesn't like.

GE favors equality for women. But it refused to agree to pay skilled women at least as much as men make on common labor.

GE favors civil rights. But it refuses to promote Negroes to skilled jobs.

Upstate Skilled Craftsmen Map Wage Ceiling Fight

In a follow-up to the successful upstate skilled crafts conference held in Syracuse on May 25, the continuations committee this week began efforts to arrange appointments with the national and regional officers of the Wage Stabilization Board.

The purpose of the appointments would be to press for action by the Board on the demands of the tool and diemen for increases in the rate ceilings of the craftsmen by 30 to 77 cents an hour. These rate rises were actually recommended by a special panel of the wage freeze board but turned down by the board itself.

The Syracuse conference appears to have sparked action by angered craftsmen across the country. Already a similar conference of New England workers has been called for Boston on June 22. Like the Syracuse meeting, the one

scheduled for Boston is expected to group together tool and die workers regardless of affiliation from a broad section of the labor movement.

The breadth of the upstate conference was emphasized in the composition of the continuations committee which includes CIO, AFL and independent union members. The committee consists of the following:

William Templeton, UE Local 301, chairman; Fred Cacchione, IAM-AFL, Elmira, secretary; Peter Bednaccuk, IAM-AFL, Utica; George Diemer, UE Local 301; Sig Peterson, UE Local 325, Jamestown; Edward Sprok, UE Local 331, Rome; Ernest Sonnen, UE Local 306, North Tonawanda; and Otto Ulrich, IUE-CIO, Syracuse.



NEWS WEEK: GEOGRAPHICAL WAGE DIFFERENTIALS BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH COST LABOR FOUR AND A HALF BILLION YEARLY

U. S. Survey Shows Why Women Work

The "pin money" theory of why American women work has been pinned down for the phoney it is in a detailed report just published by the U. S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau.

The government report revealed that two-thirds of all women working used all or almost all of their earnings to support themselves and their dependents. Many women have to foot the inflated bills for large families.

Despite these facts industry continues to treat women workers as if they punch time clocks just for the fun of it. Salaries are universally way below those paid men for identical jobs. And in industries where women get the lowest pay, the earnings of men workers are also pulled way down below the average, proving again that men workers suffer from the exploitation of women.

GE is one of the huge corporations which is making the most out of the "pay the women less" racket.

'301' Delegates Join UE Lobby In Washington

Three members of Local 301 are among the members of a UE national delegation now in Washington where they are aiming to get as many congressmen and Senators as possible on record against the wage freeze and anti-labor legislation.

Representing the Schenectady Local are Vice President Roy Schaffer, William Christman and Lawrence Gebu.

The union's "lobbyists" are giving top priority to the ending of the wage freeze which has forced down the standard of living of millions of American workers while prices and profits have mounted steadily.

Also high on the list of issues to be discussed with members of Congress are two vicious anti-union proposals. They are the Smith anti-strike bill which aims at outright union-busting, and the Humphrey-McCarran moves to give the politicians the right to override the democratic choice of the workers and pick unions to "represent" these workers.

A True Story of GE Callousness

General Electric never has and probably never will tire of telling its workers and the general public about what a wonderful company it is to work for.

But GE's self-glorification sometimes runs into snags created by company officials not in the public relations department. For example, it would be tough to convince the women in Bldg. 81 working on a lacing operation with only the inadequate protection of the white gloves (picture left) provided by the company.

As a result, a number of the women are suffering from serious hand injuries and skin maladies. A set of leather fingers (picture right), costing a few cents per worker would provide the needed safety.

But the "Santa Claus" management at GE refused to provide the fingers until UE won the case in a grievance, apparently preferring to have its workers follow GE's "prescribed rules" even at the cost of serious and perhaps permanent disability.



30 Rate Increases Won In Beef Adjustments

More than 30 GE workers have received wage rate increases ranging from three to nine cents an hour as a result of grievance cases recently processed through to a successful conclusion by UE Local 301.

The largest group to win more money consisted of 12 workers in the Aeronautics and Ordnance departments of Buildings 46 and 60. Their rate was upped from \$1.56 to \$1.65 after UE fought to eliminate the "D" and "E" categories which the company was seeking to introduce in the departments. The company finally gave in and all of the workers who had been given the "D" rating were moved up to "C." George Wilson was the steward who processed the case.

In Bldg. 267, nine women workers on the Assemble test, exhaust and glass sealing operations won raises from \$1.34 to \$1.37 an hour. H. Nichols is their steward.

J. Le Brant, W. Haskin and B. Sarnowski, three workers on the resistance check and Wheatstone Bridge test in Bldg. 241, won a six cent raise to a rate of \$1.40. R. Peacock is the shop steward.

In Bldg. 285, two battery truck operators who have been doing difficult high tiering work and moving complicated apparatus, won a rate increase from \$1.51½ to \$1.56½. L. Riano is steward.

A group of workers on dip, stack punching, pot continuity, deflection coil assembly, and wrapping and packing for shipping operations won wage rate increases from \$1.34 to \$1.37. The steward is George Agius.

Trial Group Acts On Two Cases

A cowardly attack on an older man combined with a long record of anti-union activities brought about the expulsion of one man from UE Local 301 on Monday.

The action was taken by the membership meeting on the recommendation of the Trials committee. The expelled man was John Fiore, who on March 2 assaulted 64-year-old Joseph Krauhuler while on the job. Fiore didn't even take the trouble to answer the charges when given an opportunity.

It was pointed out that the expelled man, a group leader, had a long record of anti-unionism and that the company was now doing everything possible to protect him. This was in sharp contrast to professed company policy of firing anybody guilty of violent action in the plant.

In another action, the meeting approved the recommendation that charges be dropped with a reprimand against Stanley Wozumski, Bldg. 19, for his anti-union actions in his group and attitude on a recent fight on wages, which he opposed. Wozumski's previous good union record was cited as a reason for leniency. However, he was warned that repetition of his action would bring expulsion.

UE ON THE JOB

Bldg. 10C: Group of drill press operators protest fact there is not adequate allowance in their prices to cover time lost on drill and reamer changes. They demand a management investigation and proper adjustment.

Bldg. 28: A group of Class "K" Inspectors are doing higher classification inspection work. They work on precision instruments and demand reclassification to Class "J" inspection.

Bldg. 49: August Granbacka is classified as an Electroplater-Still Tank operator although another worker who has been on the same operation a shorter time has been given the higher classification of Solutions Specialist. Management admits Granbacka's full competence. He demands full management investigation as basis for further discussion.

Bldg. 52: A group of chippers find that there has been a drastic increase in the demands and skills required of their jobs in recent years. They believe that their present time rating is far too low because it does not take into consideration such things as the safety hazards resulting from the heights they work at. They demand an increase in their time rating in line with those prevailing for similar jobs throughout the plant.

A group of heavy assemblers on Stator frames demand an increase in their time rating because of the many changes in their jobs in recent years. They are now required to work on wooden planks up to 30 feet above floor level and additional knowledge is required to maintain dimensions in much more complicated assemblies. They find

that their jobs compare to those which now have time ratings of \$1.45, not with those at the \$1.16 level which they have.

A group of welders on Stator frames believe that the many changes in their job in recent years requires an increase in their timing rate. Inaccessibilities have increased because of changed design, making the welding much harder, and safety hazards such as increased heights and smoke fumes are also greater. They call for an increase in their timing rate from \$1.06 to \$1.35.

Bldg. 60: A group of Browne and Sharpe Automatic Screw Machine Operators object to the selection of a leader for their group who previously worked in the multiple spindle group and has no previous experience on the B&S Automatics. The leader is a person with minimum experience while men with greater experience were not considered for the job. A management investigation is demanded.

M. Spangenberg asks that he be allowed to take his week's vacation from the week ending June 15 for pressing reasons.

Bldg. 81: A group of testmen charge that foreman Scanlan has been grossly unfair in the distribution of overtime, in at least one case giving a sixth day's work to a leader while ignoring the testmen who had worked the job the other five days. They demand an end to such discrimination in overtime.

Bldg. 227: A transportation group protests the use of unauthorized personnel to drive the hospital

Thousands of grievances are handled by UE Local 301 each year at all levels from the steward up to final appeal in New York City. To keep members posted, we shall each week list some of the grievances that have not been settled at the steward-foreman level and have been referred to the executive board-management level.

car and demands the assignment of three authorized drivers to cover the three shifts on this job.

Groups, including tractor trailer operators, heavy refuse, utility equipment operators and tractor train operators demand a two step increase in their job rate based on the additional responsibilities and skills beyond that called for in their present job rate.

Bldg. 273: Lester Ramsdell, a stator frame assembler, doing class B work for several months, demands the job rate, based on his performance and ability.

A group of inspectors in the Large Lathe Section demand re-evaluation of their job to the "AA" classification in view of the work they are performing and the added duties given to them. They point out that their work formerly had the "AA" rating.

Groups working under Foreman Hiagen charge that a speedup is in effect in their area in the following way: Welding and machine groups are being asked to work week-ends while the inspection group is not, resulting in a pileup

of work for them when they come in on Monday morning. By this method all welding work which previously had required inspection has now been eliminated and lathe inspectors now have to O.K. finished machining operations without inspection; these operations used to require inspection with proper approval, maintaining dimensions and tolerances according to drawing. The groups involved demand that if any overtime is given to welding and machine groups, similar overtime should be given to inspectors.

A group protests that under the present method of computing crane waiting time, the actual time required for the lift exceeds the time allowance in price. They demand an investigation to correct this situation.

Victor H. Wojcik protests foreman's arbitrary selection of another employee with less service for 1st shift upgrading. He points out that he was qualified for the upgrading since foreman was willing to offer him the same position but only on the 2nd or 3rd shifts. He asks for the 1st shift job to which he is entitled by seniority.

Campbell Ave.: S. Campoli protests against management's failure to give him an opportunity to fill an open Tallyman's job for which he is qualified. He asks a management investigation.

Malta: L. Adams and H. Tyler, doing their job as it has been done from the beginning, feel that because supervision has had a misunderstanding of their job is no reason to change their work now. They've been told they must rotate on work outside of that called for by their job classification. Adams and Tyler stated that handling of peroxide has always been a separate job under conditions entirely different from oxygen and nitrogen plant operator and they feel they should remain separate.

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