

301 Backs Vosburg On Welfare Record

The union's membership meeting Tuesday night approved the report of a 301 committee which found that charges against Leo H. Vosburg in connection with his administration of the county home were "strictly politics."

By a substantial vote, the meeting supported the committee's decision that Vosburg is doing his job in "a fair and impartial manner." By an equally heavy vote the membership reaffirmed the action taken previously by the local in giving PAC endorsement to him. Vosburg is running for reelection as county welfare commissioner on the Republican and American Labor Party tickets.

Vicepresident William Hodges, as chairman of the committee, made the report. The other members of the committee, who all concurred, were Helen Quirini, recording secretary; William Templeton and George A. Walker.

Hodges reported in detail on the careful investigation made by the group and its surprise inspection of the county home and questioning of inmates.

The committee's conclusions, approved by the membership were:

"1. We feel Mr. Vosburg is administering the affairs of the County Home in a fair and impartial manner.

"2. We feel Mr. Hagadorn, (Raymond P. Hagadorn) who has been with the County Home for about 10 years, last 6 years as superintendent, is a fair and efficient superintendent. We have heard no criticism about him.

"3. Considering the fact that this home has now about 252 inmates averaging about 80 years of age, it was surprising that there wasn't more criticism over the period of years Mr. Vosburg has been supervisor.

"4. Committee was satisfied that the home was exceptionally clean and totally adequate to care properly for the inmates.

"5. The purpose of this investigation was to find out if the charges against Vosburg had any merit. This committee has made its report. It is the duty of the board to now decide what stand it will take in regard to Vosburg and PAC."

Wage Structure Approved

(Continued from Page 1)

He pointed out that the plan was not to seek a general increase at this time, but to unite the membership on a clear-cut wage structure which would correct injustices.

Endorsed by 301



LEO H. VOSBURG

Turbine Workers Firm Against GE Pressure

Group meetings, which the company has claimed are contrary to rules, were held by two foremen in Bldg. 60 in the past week, in efforts to pressure men into accepting overtime work. The pressure moves reflected company worry over the increasingly solid unity of the workers in refusing overtime until the dispute over the 7½-hour shift is settled.

Both foremen's moves failed. The first meeting was Friday, when Foreman E. Allen called the men from their work on the night shift. This was the same department where the first shift's lunch hour conversations a few weeks ago brought a threat against Steward Roy Lash. Allen tried to talk the men into accepting overtime. He said the company would lose contracts if the men did not work Saturdays. The men told him they wanted an eight-hour shift, and that they would not work Saturdays until that question was settled. The same kind of pressure was tried by Foreman Louis Gerard on part of his group in 60 on Monday, with the same response by the men.

Last Saturday only 71 men worked out of about 3,800 in the entire Turbine Division, a record low. This was the smallest since the men voted to refuse overtime.

One small group worked overtime in 273 this week, because Foreman George Endries (who is also Democratic leader of the County Board of Supervisors) told

Membership Elects Trial Committee

A nine-man trial committee was elected by the 301 membership meeting Tuesday night to conduct the trial of three members charged with planning a campaign to discredit the local.

Those elected were: Joseph Whitbeck, Bldg. 69; Fred Pacelli, Bldg. 101; John Rej, Bldg. 42; Joseph Hils, Bldg. 89; Joseph A. Mangino, Bldg. 77; A. J. Griffith, Bldg. 10; Anthony Campriello, Bldg. 52; Sigmund Klein, Bldg. 69, and Salvatore Maietta, Bldg. 52.

At the request of the defendants, the 10 tellers included five men selected by the defendants. President Andrew Peterson named the other five.

The trial committee will conduct the trial of the trio between now and the October membership meeting and will make its report and recommendations to that meeting. At the direction of the Aug. 19 membership meeting, charges were filed by 301 officers against Frank Fiorillo, who calls himself chairman of the "Democratic Action Committee" in Schenectady, and Martin Stanton and C. J. Di Girolamo, stewards in Bldg. 69.

They are accused of jointly planning "a campaign to discredit Local 301 of the UE, its officers and membership," and of preparing, in connection with that campaign, "an anti-union statement for newspaper publication, which appeared in summary form as a news item in the Schenectady Gazette on Aug. 5, 1947," and of engaging in other anti-union activities.

The Gazette recently devoted nearly a full column to a statement by Bart Enright, national treasurer of the "Democratic Action Committee" on behalf of the accused members, and attacking the union.

them that a large number had worked Saturday in Bldg. 49. The story was untrue.

The company has not yet responded to the union's efforts to try to work out the problem. The company has indicated it would have to be convinced the men mean business. It apparently is still trying to divide the men rather than try to solve the problem.

The last membership action specifically applied to overtime work on inventory as well as on production. Some foremen have suggested there was a difference.

301 on Air

The weekly radio broadcast of Local 301 is at 7:15 p.m. every Monday over WSNY.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

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GE Admits Effect Of Turbine Stand Against Overtime

The company admitted this week, in a letter to individual workers in the Turbine Division, that it was being hit badly by the men's refusal to work overtime because of the dispute over the 7½-hour shift.

The letter, signed by W. E. Saupé, division superintendent, complained that "during the past few weeks, we lost eight turbines to competitors." Saupé asked the men to work overtime, and said that refusal to do so would mean the cancellation of orders. Saupé's letter completely ducked the question of the short shift and the refusal of the company to try to work out the problem with the union.

The union has tried repeatedly to work out the problem. When the refusal of overtime was voted, the union notified the company it was ready to meet at any time in an effort to find a solution. The company's latest reply was that it would go ahead with the short shift.

No group of workers strike or refuse work unless forced to by management's attitude. The Turbine members on their own undertook to refuse overtime because of the company's insistence on cutting the men's shift and therefore their pay instead of working out the problem.

Workers' Fight Effective

The Saupé letter was written because the men's lines were holding firm in the fight, despite increasing pressure from foremen. One of the foremen's favorite methods has been to tell one group that another group was working overtime. The fact is that only a very small number have been coming in, and these few largely because of rumors. The principal difficulty has been in Bldg. 273, because of its distance from the other division buildings.

The Saupé letter was mailed to the home of each worker just before the division membership met at headquarters for a periodic review of the situation, and to answer questions, raised mainly because of foremen's rumors. The meetings were held Wednesday and Thurs-

Wallace Speech at UE Convention Praises UE Record, Hits Enemies

Henry Wallace, who was Secretary of Agriculture and later Vicepresident of the United States under Franklin D. Roosevelt, praised the progressive record of UE and condemned the red-baiting enemies of the union in a speech at the opening of the national UE convention Monday at Boston.

Friend of UE



Henry Wallace

Both the Truman Administration and Congress are controlled by "the military and Wall Street", he charged. He said the American people are entitled to a choice "between progress and reaction" and that if they aren't given such a choice-by the Democratic and Republican parties "they shall have a new party of peace and liberty."

The real crisis of the moment is "not on the Greek border", Wallace declared, but "in American grocery stores."

Only four years ago, Wallace pointed out, Secretary of War Patterson made a speech at a UE convention praising the union's aid to the war effort as indispensable. In contrast, he cited the attacks now being made on the union, and analyzed the reasons.

Cites Record of UE

"The UE, one of the largest unions of America both numerically and in its importance to the American economy, has friends," Wallace said. "It also has enemies."

"The UE was one of the first labor unions in this country which realized that laboring men must do more than organize for better working conditions and decent wages. You have thrown your weight behind the whole progressive program of FDR. There are millions of men and women inside and outside the labor movement, here and abroad, who stand shoulder to shoulder with you as you work for the general welfare."

Wallace said that as soon as the war was over "the enemies of labor felt that it was safe to attack you on all fronts."

"You believed and you still believe in collective bargaining. Collective bargaining makes sense. Some of those who oppose collective bargaining, realizing that they cannot defeat you by logic, cry 'Communist!' The enemies of public housing and public health do not admit that they believe in reaction. Their argument against progress is always the same. It consists of one word - 'Communist'." (Continued on Page 2)

Jandreau Again Heads Resolutions Committee

Leo Jandreau, Local 301 business agent, was again chosen chairman of the resolutions committee at the national UE convention which opened Monday at Boston. He has headed this important committee several years.

President Andrew Peterson was named to the constitution committee. Other delegates from 301 are Vicepresident William Hodges, Recording Secretary Helen Quirini, Treasurer Marshall White, Chief Shop Steward William Mastriani, and Julius Emspak, national secretary-treasurer.

Next week's issue of EU News will report convention actions.

\$100 Donation

The Executive Board voted Sept. 19 to give \$100 to the Cerebral Palsy Association.

day, in three shifts (after this paper went to press).

The division meeting was called by William Stewart, 301 executive board member for Bldgs. 49 and 60, Leland Sisto, for 273, and James Cognetta for 52.

Wallace Praises UE In Convention Talk

(Continued from Page 1)

"It is to the eternal credit of UE that your union has not been disrupted by the raising of false issues. You have marched breast forward on the path to abundance here and everywhere. I look forward to the day when every worker can have the protection of a strong union."

"Your enemies and mine include those who abolished controls at the end of the war. They include a Congress, aided and abetted by the reactionary men wearing the Democratic label, who killed OPA— Our enemies are all those who want to talk war instead of peace."

Warmongers Are Enemies

"Every Congressman, every brass hat, every columnist and every commentator who preaches the inevitability of war and who slyly drops hints that we should drop bombs now is your enemy and the enemy of your children. They cry communism, but their real fear is democracy."

Discussing the methods used by the red-baiting enemies of the union, Wallace said:

"They will tell you that they agree with your objectives—but that you must get more reasonable leadership. They will tell you that almost all of you are fine citizens—but that they can't work with you until you get rid of the 'trouble-makers' among you. These are the same lines of propaganda they used to fight you 10 years ago, when you were building the CIO."

"Don't let the enemy call the signals!"

Veterans' Initiation Fee

A veteran who joins the union after he has been reemployed three months at the plant must pay a \$2 initiation fee. The Executive Board voted this official interpretation of the initiation provision at its meeting Sept. 15, after learning there has been some confusion in members' minds about the requirement.

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Radio Time Changed

The 15 minute weekly radio broadcast of Local 301 now starts at 7:30 p.m. every Monday instead of 7:15. It's the same station, WSNY.

Extra Bus Scheduled For Afternoon Workers

An extra bus will run from lower Broadway to the city line for the workers leaving the GE plant at 4 and 5 p.m., the Schenectady Railway Company told 301 representatives recently at a meeting of the citywide traffic committee.

The plan will be put into operation within a short time, the company official said, as an experiment. The starting point will be at the Broadway loading platform at the intersection of Broadway and lower Broadway.

The company announced that the new routing of buses from GE to the uptown area through Edison, via Millard and Veeder, saves 5 to 7 minutes per trip. The buses are not yet filled to capacity. This improvement was suggested by the traffic committee, organized through the efforts of Local 301.

William Templeton and Anthony Villant represented 301 at the last meeting.

BUILD THE UNION

Hear Who Is Talking About 'Un-Americanism'

GE's campaign to sell the Taft-Hartley law to its workers continued recently with a speech by Dr. Zay Jeffries, one of its vice-presidents, at a Chamber of Commerce dinner in Coshocton, Ohio. The speech was given a two-column head story in Saturday's Union-Star.

Dr. Jeffries was quoted as saying that "the intent of the Taft-Hartley law is to liberate the individual worker from domination by un-American elements and from practices that are not in his or the country's best interest."

This is the same Dr. Jeffries who was one of three individuals indicted by a United States grand jury as fellow conspirators with GE, IGE, the Carboly Co., and the Nazi firm of Friedrich Krupp Aktiengesellschaft in a conspiracy to restrain trade and fix prices on carboly. A U. S. Senate committee found that manipulation of carboly interfered seriously with the war effort.

Action in Troy

The CIO-AFL legislative committee of Troy and representatives of the Farmers Union will meet Tuesday at Troy to Plan for fighting high prices, for a radio program and for joint political action.

Additional 3½ Cent Raise for Rem-Rand Workers; Full National UE 'Package Increase' Won by Strike

Remington Rand workers, who won a six-week strike against the company in July, will receive an additional 3½ cents an hour increase Nov. 1, 1947, above the 8 cents effective when the strike was settled.

As the company agreed to six paid holidays in the strike settlement, the extra 3½ cents will bring the Rem-Rand workers the full 15 cents "package increase" pattern won by UE.

Announcement Postponed

The 3½ cent raise was part of the strike settlement, but the union agreed to the company's face-saving request to postpone announcement until Sept. 1.

The company stalled on issuing the news of the raise, however, and heavy pressure was necessary before the disclosure was made, a few days late.

At the 301 membership meeting Sept. 16, the national UE officers were attacked for the strike settlement by Frank Fiorillo, who calls himself chairman of the Schenectady "Democratic Action Committee." Fiorillo is one of three 301 members facing trial on charges of planning a campaign to discredit the local.

Tremendous Strike Victory

Charles Rivers, UE district 3 officer assigned to the Rem-Rand strike, pointed out what a tremendous victory the union won against the notorious company which originated the Mohawk-Valley formula to smash unions.

"They settled for the national UE wage formula," he declared. "Did you want them to stay out needlessly for extra weeks or months?"

"The Remington-Rand workers couldn't have won without the help of other UE locals. They are particularly grateful to Local 301 for your financial help and for joining their picket lines at a critical time in the strike. Not one member of the 'Democratic Action' group showed himself on the picket line!"

"The red-baiting attacks of the 'Democratic Action Committee' on UE follow the same line as the Remington-Rand attacks on the union," he said.

CIO Council Loses WTRY Radio Time

The radio program of the Capital District CIO Council, which has been broadcast at 5:55 p.m. Mondays over WTRY, has been temporarily discontinued. The program was shoved off because CBS took over the time. The Council is trying to negotiate for another hour.

The Council's WGLN program will be at 10 p.m. next Monday and alternate Mondays after that.

Local Unanimously Condemns GE for East Boston Firings

The Local 301 membership meeting September 16 unanimously condemned the General Electric Company for firing three women from the East Boston Lamp Plant for stopping work during the recent heat wave.

Joseph Turkowski, national UE representative, said the Boston incident is an example of the new GE "get tough with the workers" policy.

GE has refused to arbitrate the question of whether the three women should have been discharged, he reported. Instead, the company insists the only question it will arbitrate is whether the procedure followed in the firing was correct.

"You can see this 'get tough' policy in operation in Schenectady," he warned, "and in the other GE plants. You can be sure that if the East Boston foremen were called together and told to crack down on the people, your Schenectady foremen have had the same orders."

National UE Establishes New Membership Record

UE membership today is at an all-time high, in spite of legislative attacks on labor unions and cut-backs in employment.

Figures compiled for the annual convention, which opened Monday in Boston, show that the union membership increased 29 per cent during the past year. UE now represents 600,000 men and women under contract in the electrical manufacturing industry.

President Albert J. Fitzgerald also announced that UE won almost \$200,000,000 in wages during the past year. It increased the number of workers getting paid holidays from 173,000 to 546,000 in the industry. The number of UE workers receiving three-year vacations jumped from 12,000 to 246,000. UE contracts cover 1,536 plants in contrast to 1,375 a year ago.

Little Fellow Pays Bulk of Income Tax

Before the war, persons with less than \$5,000 a year income were stuck for only 10 per cent of the total income tax load, Russ Nixon, UE Washington representative, says in his weekly report.

"During the war, the burden on 'the little fellow' (\$5,000 a year or less) was increased to 55 per cent of the total. This increased share of the tax load still applies."

The National Association of Manufacturers tried this year to put through a tax cut for the big boys with only a tiny scrap of tax relief for the average American family.

President Truman's veto killed this bill, but the President and his Administration refused really to push a tax cut to wipe out the unfair tax load on the average man.



Russ Nixon

Peterson Welcomes Townsend To Meeting at Union Hall

Dr. Francis E. Townsend, founder of the national Townsend old-age pension movement, addressed a meeting of Townsend Club members of this vicinity Sept. 14 at 301 Hall. He was welcomed by William A. Collar, on behalf of Mayor Ten Eyck, and by President Andrew Peterson on behalf of Local 301.

"Both your organization and the CIO are determined that real old age security be established," Peterson said. "Neither of us can reach our objective without taking vigorous political action."

To Study Blue Cross Plan

A four-man committee was appointed recently by the Executive Board to investigate the Blue Cross Hospital Service plan. A thorough study will be made of this plan in comparison with the group insurance plan now in effect at GE. Committee members are President Andrew Peterson, Anthony Esposito, Willard Kuschel and Henry Busse. Brother Peterson now is a member of the executive committee of the Mutual Benefit Association.

Veterans' Center

Veterans with problems should drop in at the 301 Veterans' Center. It's open from 1 to 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Friday at 301 Hall.