LOCAL 301 NEWS
IUE-AFL-CIO
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CAPITAL DISTRICT EMPLOYMENT REPORT

According to the recent report covering the Capital District from the Division of Employment of the New York State Department of Labor, manufacturing employment in May 1962, estimated at 62,700, showed no significant change from the previous month’s report covering April.

Non-manufacturing employment, estimated at approximately 160,000, in May 1962, was up 1400 over the previous month of April.

Unemployment in May was estimated at 4,700.

The civilian work force including agricultural, professional, etc. is estimated at 262,100 for May 1962, which is 3,000 less than a year ago when the work force was estimated to be 265,000.

The Capital District Report includes Albany, Schenectady, Troy and Saratoga. The employment figures also include approximately 10,000 workers living outside this labor market area.

AIR CONDITIONED AUDITORIUM

Estimates on air conditioning Local 301’s Auditorium are being obtained for consideration of the Executive Board and the membership.

During the hot days this past month, many members have raised the question after membership meetings as to the possibility of air conditioning the building. Moreover, the Union has lost some rentals of the Hall in preference to other places that have air conditioning. Now that our mortgage has been paid, the pressure from our members has been rising for this improvement.

The officers are planning to have some estimates for the Executive Board to consider at their regular monthly meeting on Monday, July 9th. If the Board favorably considers the proposition, it will be submitted to the members at the membership meeting on July 16th.

COPE CAMPAIGN

The 1962 COPE Drive for $1.00 per member is progressing well as we go to press and the reports indicate that the drive this year will be more successful than any other previous COPE Drive.

Local 301 did not start their Drive until June, which was late as compared with other AFL-CIO local unions who held their drives in May of this year.

The reason Local 301 got off to a late start was due to the fact that several campaigns for funds were in progress, such as the Boys Club and the TV Program on Medicare. Therefore, the COPE Drive was postponed.

While there has been a considerable amount of COPE money already turned in, many of the Shop Stewards have not made complete returns as yet.

There have been more COPE buttons worn by Local 301 members in the campaign this year than in any other previous one. The reason for this is because John Shambo, President of Local 301, has received the Democratic endorsement for State Assemblyman and many of our members have a special interest this year to support liberal candidates, such as Shambo for political office.

The COPE Drive will end this week and all returns must be in the Union Office by Monday, July 9th.

We are requesting that each Board Member be prepared to make a final report at the Executive Board meeting Monday evening.

NOTICE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, July 9th, 7:30 p.m.
Officers will meet at 6 p.m.
Union Headquarters
121 Erie Blvd.
KNOLLS GRIEVANCE GAINS RATE INCREASE

Recently Shop Steward Fagan of the Knolls Research Lab., filed a case requesting an increase for the "Service Equipment Operators". After an unsatisfactory answer from the foreman, Board Member Korszen requested that Union Headquarters send this grievance to the second step.

At a second step meeting with the Company, it was pointed out by Union negotiators that new and more complicated duties had been added to this classification, making it worth more money.

At this point, management agreed to investigate further, based on the above facts.

A short time later, we were informed that the Company would raise the rate on this job from R-17 to R-18. This offer was accepted by the Union.

Negotiating for the Union were Masera, Townsend, Korszen and Fagan.

PUNCH CARD SYSTEM A WHITE ELEPHANT

The Punch Card System in Steam Turbine which was instituted over a year ago has proved as helpful as a flat tire, as was predicted by the Union Representatives when it started.

The System, designed for more efficiency in accumulating tools and materials for jobs, works to some extent if the M.S.O. and his Work Directing Specialist and numerous other "brothers of the overhead" keep running around checking, sorting and doing manually the things the System was set up to do automatically.

One of the problems causing much of the trouble is that Decentralization of Authority and Responsibility divided among the numerous Managers of Shop Operations results into each M.S.O. patching up the system within his own BALLWICK by the use of numerous salaried help just to get the job together and finished within his area. Then the System is supposed to see to it that the job moves to the next operation under the jurisdiction of another M.S.O. The job and the parts actually get lost in CHAFF again and we repeat the same performance.

The Union pointed out that it looked good on paper when it started but could not be realistic in practice.

The Union is in the process of (cont'd, next column)

THE LOCAL GOLF LEAGUE

The 301 Golf League will have its Mid-Season Tournament on Sunday, July 8th, at the "Top-of-The World" Golf Course at Lake George. Tee-off time is 9:00 a.m.

The League is composed of 20 members divided up into two divisions separating the low and high handicappers.

Douglas DeForge is leading the Red Division of low handicappers with 204 points at the end of the mid-season, while Dominick Restifo leads the Blue Division of "hackers" with 18 points.

The League plays on Fridays after work at the Schenectady Municipal Golf Course.

The final tournament at the end of the season will be held at the "Cocoon" in the Catskills on Saturday and Sunday, August 25th and 26th.

John Naglez and Bill Christman, officers of the IUE Local 301 Golf League, wish to remind the players who are not up-to-date in their dues that half of the money needed for the year-end tournament is due and should be paid up by Friday, July 6th.

NOTICE

Summer Forum - The First Unitarian Society of Schenectady
Wednesday, July 11th, 8:00 p.m.
1221 Wendell Avenue, Schenectady

SPAKER: Dr. Norman Mercer, Assoc. Professor of Economics at Union College

SUBJECT: The Causes and Responsibilites for Technological Unemployment

ADMISSION FREE

trying to get the Turbine management to scrap the "Pennywise and Pound Foolish" plan which has been expensive both to the Company and the employees since it started.

The following Union Representatives have been engaged in the negotiations: Board Members McCabe and Clark; Shop Stewards Dziewaski, Lawrence, Irzciak, Testore, White, Fazio and Candoni; Team was headed by Assistant Business Agent Vitello.
SECRET

A Sharp Steward in the Lathes Dept., which is undergoing RE-EVALUATION, has found it impossible over a period of two months to arrange a meeting with Vandrea and G.E. to learn the consequences of the change over in his department.

LONG OVERDUE MEETINGS TAKE PLACE ——— IMPORTANT ISSUES SKIPPED

Such as:
1. What percentage of the Operators will be laid off?
2. Will remaining Operators receive added compensation for the SPEED-UP?
3. What happens if the Operator finds he cannot meet the new work quotas? Will he be replaced?
4. Will the remaining Operators be forced to take a wage cut? (increased productivity without increased wages)
5. Will the new system mean sacrificing measured daywork for the present piecework-incentives system?

THREE IMPORTANT ISSUES WERE SWEPT UNDER THE RUG

Will future meetings just be window dressing? Hasn’t Vandrea already committed himself to give G.E. the ANY-OF-THE if large savings in this RE-EVALUATION program?

This AUTOMATION depends as much on the SPEED-UP OF THE EMPLOYEE as on the SPEED-UP OF THE MACHINES. The workers will lose RSS and hard-won gains of the past.

An integral part of RE-EVALUATION is the "Red Circle Deal." Red Circle derives its name from the red circles of the average earnings of the employee at a certain period. This period is critical because Supervision can scheme to circle his wage at a low figure, after recent bimonthly pay, or take advantage of new beginners on the job, who don’t have an average earning. This DRAMATIC FIGURE REVEALS THE PACE AT WHICH THE EMPLOYEE IS PAID FOR ALL UNPLANNED WORK. It is a foregone conclusion that all workers will be unhappy with the present incentive system, and to the FIRE PAY will have a greater percentage of unplanned work.

RED CIRCLE ENHANCES FAVORITISM

The G.E. First can expect the G.E. to circled figures for his red circle rate. The lathe Operators predict that a motivating opportunists in their section will be "red circled" as a high figure.

The RED CIRCLE SYSTEM mushroomed in Big 20, Gas Turb. Dept. Joe Mangione, Chief Steward, claimed to control the drive in this Dept. to force the system on Union Members. Discrimination was commonplace, working on the same job, but on different shifts, some Members were paid as much as one dollar an hour less than other employees. Naturally Joe, the "Union Leader" has a high figure for himself.

Under Joe Mangione’s supervision, standard wages were ignored as were former job rates and classifications. Working conditions deteriorate and the conditions of "SPEED-UP" were instituted. STEAM TURBINE EMPLOYEES, FORCED TO BUMP INTO GAS TURBINE, WERE SHOCKED BY EXISTING COMPANY-"COLLUSION" which Stewart and other Union Officials, were seen to be a privileged family, enjoyed the BEST-PAY, THE BEST SHOP, THE BEST WORKING CONDITIONS, all at the expense of the Rank and File Union Members. Taking care of the "Family" was a cheap price for G.E. to pay for its gains made against the Union Members. Don’t let it happen in STEAM TURBINES!

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE
I.U.E.-M.I.A. NEWS

(I.U.E. Members for Democratic Action)

I.U.E.-M.I.A. WHAT WE BELIEVE

I.U.E.-M.I.A. MEMBERS realize there is an urgent need for the Union Worker in this technological age to assured a fair share of the increased production arising from GNP.

In order to go ahead, not to regress, nor to stand still lashed to an arbitrary level, the Company will be required to make progress as well as H.C. BUSINESS in the future. It will be necessary for the Rank and File members to elect Representatives who will be dedicated to the progress of the Union Members and that the present air sickness of the NE-VALUATION program in the Schenectady G.E. Plant giving all the gains of CO-OPERATION to General Electric should cease.

Because our Local 301 Officers have a program of complete capitulation to G.E.'s demands and that basic WORK PRINCIPLES, dedicated to the welfare of the Rank and File, have been abandoned, we, I.U.E.-M.I.A. MEMBERS, have found it necessary to organize with the intent of REVERSING the present Local 301 Officers' REGRESSION into COMPANY UNIOINISM.

If the WILL of the MEMBERSHIP prevails, as is rule, "HANDBALLISM", in Schenectady I.U.E. Local 301 Officers and Rank and File DEMOCRACY will govern for the benefit of all the WORKER.

NEWSFLASH

General Electric threatens disciplinary action for turning down OVER TIME. Steam Turbine Employers' told to work overtime, when work load necessitates, or face punishment.

It is too bad, Local 301 Officers, have such ties that they cannot work out a position cut in the open against General Electric's new policy of mandatory overtime, in Steam Turbine.