LOCAL 301 NEWS

Vol. 8, No. 31 The Voice of G.S. Workers, Local 301 Dec. 29, 1961

GREETINGS
AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

MEANLY URGES GOVT. ACTION ON JOBLESS

AFL-CIO President, George Meany, stated in testimony before the Joint Economic Committee's Sub-committee on Economic Statistics that "full and energetic application" of the Employment Act of 1946 is required to meet the unemployment crisis and "approach the national goal of jobs for all."

He asserted that the "deeply disturbing factors underlying unemployment percentage rates of recent months make matters worse than the unemployment rate would indicate."

Pres. Meany made the following observations: "On average of 1.3 million new jobs will be needed each year for the next decade to absorb the increase in the labor force."

"An even greater number of jobs, 2.3 million a year, by our estimate, must be found for workers displaced by automation and other technological changes."

He goes on to say "even if the present backlog of unemployment disappeared; even if the country enjoyed full employment right now, 2.6 million jobs a year, 70,000 jobs a week would have to be found in order to keep the American people at work."

LOCAL 301 SENDS CANCER CONTRIBUTION

At the recent AFL-CIO Constitutional Convention held in Florida, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt was honored with labor's gift of one million dollars to the Cancer Foundation named for her.

During the month of November, every union member affiliated with the AFL-CIO throughout the country was asked to contribute 10 cents.

Local 301 members are to be congratulated for their instant response and generosity to such a worthwhile cause. Our Union Office sent a check for $123.20 to the National Office as our contribution to the Cancer Foundation.

Medical experts estimate that 25 million Americans presently in the labor movement will die needlessly. These workers could be cured by prompt detection and adequate treatment of the disease. The contributions made by our members, together with millions of other workers, will help to expedite the day when a cure is found for this dreaded disease.

THE OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE BOARD
MEMBERS AND SHOP STEWARDS OF
LOCAL 301 WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES A PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.
DECENTRALIZATION AT ITS WORST!

This week a union member came to Union Headquarters with the following story:

About seven weeks ago, I called him in from lack of work and sent him to the SMC Dept., on an opening which he accepted. In order to accept this job, he quit a good position as an armed guard with the Armored Carrier Corporation of New York City.

The Company at this point told him that due to the fact he had not been out three years, his service would be adjusted and restored. At this point he made arrangements to repay his pension monies by signing an authorization.

Two weeks later he was called in to the Personnel office and told that the Company had made a mistake in rehiring him. They told him that the fact that he had drawn out his pension monies before he was on lack of work for a year automatically broke his service. Incidentally, this is a Company rule on continuity of service which your Union never has agreed with.

At this point his Board Member was successful in getting him a lower rated temporary job in the SAC Dept.

He was notified last week that this Friday would be his last working day. It was at this point that he came to us asking for help.

It is our opinion that this man is suffering extreme damage through no fault of his own. He quit a good job which is no longer available to him. If the Company gets away with this, he will be out on the street destitute without a job. As we go to press, we are negotiating with the Company to hold this man on the job until we can come to the proper solution. It is our position that his service should be restored and that he should be allowed to repay his pension monies. We do not feel this man should suffer because of a "foul-up" in Company records due to decentralization.

We are prepared to pursue this case all the way to arbitration if it becomes necessary.

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT

ATTEND THE NEXT LOCAL 301 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

NEW PAYMENT METHOD WORKED OUT IN IAGS

A new payment method was worked out in IAGS to take care of an unusual condition which existed. In IAGS, day work burners service the piece work assemblers. Over the years the burners have tried to get an incentive plan for they are tied in so closely with the piece work set-up that they felt they were working at an incentive pace for day work wages.

The major block to the burners becoming piece workers was the problem of a payment plan. The voucher system would not work because of the number of piece workers the burner serviced and different methods of cutting that would have to be used.

A post-planning table was devised that enabled a burner to be paid for the burning he performed. The burner fills out a work sheet listing the type and cuts made; this sheet was turned in daily. Planner would take the sheet and from a pick-off table issue voucher for the amount of voucher money earned. The planner is available to the burner to answer questions about the table and up to this time all differences have been readily resolved. Shop steward Muster Board Member Anastasi and the burners of IAGS are to be congratulated on solving this long standing problem.

ATTENTION: NEW STEWARDS

Newly elected Shop Stewards of Local 301, IUE, are advised to contact their supervisors and request from him a "General Electric Union Representatives Pension Plan" card. Fill in all of the required information and return to supervisor.

This procedure is necessary in order to receive proper adjustments to your pension fund when you have lost time from work paid by the Union.

$20 MILLION TO FIGHT HEALTH PLAN

The following is a story which appeared recently in the New York Herald-Tribune:

"Watch for the American Medical Association to be joined in a massive $20 million campaign by the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce against the Administration's Medical Care Program. This is one of the top three legislative items now being resolved for the new session of Congress in January. To combat it, these three organizations are teaming up for the first time. The estimate of a $20 million drive against the controversial bill comes from a high administration source."