SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE UNDER WAY

Local 301's 1962 Scholarship Fund Drive is presently under way.
This will be the fourth annual drive in which Shop Stewards will
solicit our members for contributions.
The three previous fund raising campaigns proved very successful.
This was due wholly to the generosity and cooperation of our members.

The three young men who have or are presently receiving finan-
cial benefits as a result are: Paul Grazide, John Whitehouse and
Robert Wilcox.

Scholarship Chairman Frank
Masterson points out that the Schol-
arship Committee receives a periodic
progress report from the colleges
attended by the recipients of our
scholarships. He reports that all
three students are progressing very
satisfactorily in their studies.

Students are selected for the
Scholarship on the basis of their
scholastic standings and financial
need.

Once again the Scholarship
Committee solicits your financial
support in an effort to make this
year's fund drive a successful one.

BOARD MEMBERS TO DISTRIBUTE
NEW RATE SHEETS

At the meeting of the Executive
Board which will be held on April 9,
1962, Board Members will receive
copies of the new rate sheets cover-
ing day work and piece work rates,
which went into effect on April 21,
1962, as provided for under the 1960
IUE-IE Contract.

Place work conversion sheets
will also be distributed.

Shop Stewards will be contacted
by their respective Board Members
next week and copies of the above
information will be given to them.

NOTICE
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 9th, 7:30 p.m.
Officers will meet at 6 p.m.
Union Headquarters-121 Erie Blvd.

STRIKE IN FITCHBURG CONTINUES

On March 23, 1962, Local 301
News reported that President Shambo
had received a letter from Norman
J. Santezze, President of Local 286
IUE-AFL-CIO, notifying us that his
Local was on strike.

Over 600 members are involved.
Six grievances, unsatisfactorily
settled at the New York Level
(third step) of the grievance pro-
cedure were responsible for the
walkout.

The strike is now in its 5th
week. It began on Feb. 27, 1962.

President Santezze has
appealed to Local 301 for financial
assistance on behalf of the members
of Local 286.

Next week, Executive Board
Members will distribute to their
Shop Stewards petitions requesting
a contribution from members of our
Local which will help to ease the
burdens and hardships of our union
brothers in the G.E. Plant in
Fitchburg, Mass.
CAPITAL DISTRICT LABOR REPORT

The New York State Dept. of Labor, Division of Employment, reported in its March 1962 issue of "Labor Market Letter" that the Albany-Schenectady-Troy Area had a manufacturing employment of approximately 63,100 in February, indicating no change from January; however, it was 1,700 higher than February 1961. This gain over 1961 was due to increased employment in stone, clay and glass, primary metals, electrical machinery and garment firms.

Non-Manufacturing employment in February was about 107,000, down 1,800 from January but 1,500 over February of last year.

Unemployment in February held about even with January at approximately 15,500, a drop of 4,000 compared to February 1961 figure.

The unemployment rate held steady at 5.9. This indicates a decided drop from 7.4 level in February of last year.

The decline of the average weekly earnings of production workers which was evidenced in December continued into January. The January figure was $103.23 compared with $107.20 in December 1961 and $109.51 in November. The earnings, however, are still above last January's figure of $97.66.

The loss currently being experienced is due primarily to a cutback in hours worked per week. The average dropping from 41.6 to 40.5 hours.

A labor force summary of the Albany Labor Market Area shows the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civilian Work Force /1</td>
<td>263,000</td>
<td>264,400</td>
<td>263,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed /2</td>
<td>247,500</td>
<td>248,900</td>
<td>249,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>15,500</td>
<td>15,700</td>
<td>19,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

/1 Includes persons involved in labor-management disputes, not shown separately.
/2 Includes about 10,000 commuters living outside the labor market area, and an unknown number of dual job-holders.

(p) Preliminary.
(r) Revised.

SLAVERY OF DOWNGRADED MEMBERS

The survey made recently by the Union shows, according to the reports received at the Union Office, that approximately 175 members of IUE Local 301 are presently working on lower rated jobs and are requesting upgrades when the opportunity presents itself.

The skills on which the downgraded workers claim to be qualified include:

- Toolmakers, Sheetors, Inspection, Welding, Boring Mill, Milling Machine, Steelworker, Millwright, Electrical, Stockkeeper, Assembler, Sheet Metal, Tractor Operator, Chopper and many other specialized occupations.

Many of the long service employees who are among the downgraded have physical limitations or will only work on the day shift; however, the majority of those downgraded have no physical or shift limitations.

N.Y. STATE WELFARE REPORT

In January, 55,300 persons received supplementary or full support through the five public assistance programs in N.Y. State, amounting to $27.8 million. Recipients and expenditures both increased 3.2% over December, as the monthly average grant per person was almost unchanged at $50.11.

The increase in recipients followed a seasonal pattern which is usually less marked in New York City than Upstate. In New York City, the number of recipients increased by 1.3% over the previous month; Upstate, the increase was 1.4%. A year ago the comparable increases were 2.3% for New York City and 2.2% Upstate.

Medical Assistance for the Aged paid out $8.8 million this month for care of 29,915 persons, compared to $8.7 million for 29,641 persons in Dec. In its 10 months of operation to date, DAA has paid medical bills amounting to $55.2 million, providing total of about 300,000 months' care to ill and needy aged of the State.