The local annual UE Convention, held in 1930, was a significant event in the history of the Union. The convention concluded on a positive note, with increased membership and support for the Union's goals. The Union continued to grow, with membership reaching new heights. The Union's focus on improving working conditions and wages for its members was a key priority. The Union's efforts in this area were recognized by the national organization, which supported the local's initiatives. Overall, the Union's success was a testament to its dedication to its members and its commitment to social justice. The Union's leadership continued to work towards improving the lives of its members, and the Union's members continued to support their leadership in their efforts to improve working conditions and wages. The Union's success was a source of pride for its members and a source of inspiration for other unions across the country.
The end of 1950 shows good progress for Schenectady UAW workers; however, the gains would have been more substantial if the 65 workers on a company-bonded basis had not been split by the BLS-CDU. Nevertheless, the solidarity of the membership of the U.A., along with the experience of 10 years in dealing with the GE Company, won us a renewal of our contract with improvements and a 3% increase in wages. For the first time the U.A. workers are protected by a contract covering wages and insurance. Among the more important improvements in the Pension Plan are the $1.50 minimum monthly pension increase, the revised rates after 20 years of service and the minimum disability pension of $800.00 per month. The insurance benefits in existence under the previous plan are substantially improved in the new insurance plan. The contributions of the employees are reduced considerably. The Pension and Insurance Plans will run for five years with the right to reopen after one year to negotiate improvements and the right to strike if no agreement is reached.

Wages were increased 25c an hour bringing the minimum rate for common labor to $1.70 per hour and the minimum job rate for men to $1.75 per hour. Skilled tradesmen received an additional 15c per hour. Approximately 4,000 day workers in the Schenectady area received the additional 15c.

An extra holiday was also granted this year, making seven paid holidays each year.

The Contract runs for two years until Sept. 15, 1952. However, the agreement provides for a wage reopening each six months, with the first coming up on March 15, 1951.

Schenectady UAW workers have done fairly well through their Union again for another year. The record shows that it pays to belong to the U.A.

The annual drive for new members will start on or about January 1st. The shop stewards will be supplied with membership forms and will be requested to list every employee working in their group.

The forms will be delivered to the Union office to be checked against the membership records. After this is done, the forms identifying the Union members will be sent to each steward and he will be requested to contact the non-members and ask them to sign an application.

There is no legitimate excuse today for a U.A. worker in the factory not to be a member of the Union, with the exception of approximately 300 members, who are either on the absentee list or recorded as undesirable. All workers get the benefits won through the Union — all workers should join and do their part.

OCCUPANCY

Unlike other unions, the work of Local 301 U.A. does not cease after contract negotiations. Taking up grievances for members constitutes a major part of the Union's work.

During 1950 the 65 shop stewards took up many grievances with the foremen as when they are assigned. Some stewards average one or more cases each week with the foremen. Many cases are settled between the foreman and the steward on a verbal basis with no record made of it. However, 1,450 cases were recorded in the shop between the steward and the foreman in writing for the year 1950. These cases that cannot be settled with the foreman are generally referred to the Executive Board of the Union and management. Those numbered approximately 750 for the year 1950.

Along with the service to our members on the day to day problems in the shop, keeping their wages and working conditions intact, the Union gives workers' Compensation protection by employing a full time attorney to represent our members in Compensation Court. Last year the Union provided representation in 790 cases in Compensation Court on no cost to the members involved.

Children's Hour, Party

The annual UIU Local 301 children's party will be held at the Hotel Pleasant, High School Auditorium on Saturday, Dec. 22, 1950.

The Activities Committee contemplates a large turnout and in order to accommodate everyone, it was necessary to arrange for both a morning and an afternoon program. The shop stewards have had tickets for sale, the proceeds of which will be used to offset the cost of the party and also entitle the purchaser of such tickets to participate in a drawing for a 16 inch color television. The drawing for the television will take place at the afternoon session of the party.

TIME — PLACE

11:45 a.m.— Hotel Pleasant, High School (orange passes)
6:00 p.m. — Hotel Pleasant, High School (white passes)

1. Each adult will be admitted by showing green purchased ticket.
2. Children must have pass which entitles them to one candy, nuts, and fruit.
3. The children's passes are in two colors: white & orange; orange passes for morning program only; white passes for afternoon program only.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

LOCAL 301 — U.R.A. & N.W.A.

DECEMBER 21, 1950

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The annual election for officers of U.A. Local 301 took place at Union Headquarters last Thursday and Friday. The polls were open 30 consecutive hours; however, only 1,256 members availed themselves of the opportunity to vote. It was true that it was an off year for the usual fever and name-calling which has accompanied the Union's elections for the past several years.

Last year approximately 3,600 members voted even though there was no contest for some of the offices. However, other pending issues such as the holding up of the dues check-off and the 1950 election petition by the I.U.A. created considerable interest.

The annual elections are very expensive to the local Union, requiring transportation of the voting machines, pay for the city election personnel, printing, lost time for the election committee, etc. The cost this year will be approximately $13,000.00.

The Election Committee gives the following as a partial report on the elections for 1951:

OFFICE NAME NO. OF VOTES RECORD
President J. J. Kelly 273 1041
Recording Secretary Roy Lash 273 277
Vice President Joseph Hughes 77 1077
Treasurer Henry Kaminski 79 599
Business Agent Leo Andrus 28 209
Auditor Frank O'Brien 52 974
Steward James Gogos 32 826
Steward Joseph Ziga 89 297
Steward James O'Brien 273 18

The election of the Executive Board will take place the early part of January.