

## Men Face Loss Of Jobless Pay

### Benefits Run Out For Part Of Force Still Without Jobs

About 250 persons, employed at Art Metal, Inc. prior to the strike last spring which closed the firm's plants for 80 days, have exhausted their unemployment insurance benefits and are now faced with no source of income.

Under State unemployment insurance laws, the 26 weeks of jobless benefits cannot be extended, and union officials have received word from Governor Rockefeller's office and from legislators pointing out that, at present, no avenues are open for extension of the benefits.

Benefits for the majority of the men expired the week of Jan. 15, when a total of 207 persons received their final unemployment benefit checks from the local State Unemployment Insurance Office.

Union officials estimate that 250 of the firm's former work force of 1,300 persons still are without employment. About 560 have been recalled to work at the plant, and a number of others have found employment elsewhere.

#### On Upgrade

For the persons who have been recalled to work at Art Metal, Inc. conditions "are on the upgrade," according to Richard Lundin, president of Lodge 1559, International Association of Machinists.

Mr. Lundin said an average of 25 men per week have been recalled to work. He pointed out that changes in products of the company have made the conditions at the plants "just like a new company starting from scratch."

He estimated 50 men presently are employed at the firm's contract plant, and that eventually more than 200 will be employed there.

On the Jamestown area unemployment situation in general, Lawrence Dorler, manager of the local state Unemployment Insurance Office, reported 1,832 persons drew unemployment benefits to exhaustion during 1958, when a total of \$4,901,908 in benefit checks was paid.

Last year, he pointed out, 1,073 persons exhausted their benefits, when a total of \$3,655,109 was paid out, a drop of \$1.3 million in benefits paid for the year.

Mr. Dorler said present law specifies 26 weeks of unemployment insurance, and there are no provisions at present for extension of the benefits. An extension presumably would have to be granted by action of the Legislature, he said.

#### Must Be Reemployed

The only way in which an individual could receive additional benefits, he said would be to be employed for five months, after which he again would be eligible