

THE TRUE U-E STORY

Unfit - Egotism • Unreliable - Elegy • Unfair - Elusive!

The following is our answer to the UE circular which was distributed last week.

It is not a surprise to some of us that UE which once symbolized a united electrical union has degenerated into a weak and disruptive tool of Industry.

THE UE IS UNFIT because it has lost its bargaining strength by not only losing its own members but unfit because it no longer has the support of Organized Labor, Government and the public. Because of this weakness, the 3 men, Fitzgerald, Mattes and Emspak, have embarked on a program of EGOTISM using false promises to cover up their shallow pride and emptiness in their bankrupt desire for admiration. Their conceit and exaggerated self-esteem, which are exposed in the publications cooked up in the "Marble Palace" located in the heart of New York's diamond district, tell the story of a bankrupt organization still able to support a few officers living off the fat of union dues paid to them by a few confused and bewildered honest workers.

Same Old Formula

Last week the UE dug out of their archives an old formula which has been used by Organized Labor in collective bargaining over the years—the ability of a corporation to pay benefits to its workers, showing the profits of the two largest corporations, General Electric and Westinghouse.

They try to cover up their weakness by charging others with lies, that the Grievance Procedure has collapsed, which is a good example of their lack of knowledge of what is going on in G.E. plants. The reason for this stupidity is because of their weakness as a union. That is exactly what is happening in those few plants still represented by UE, particularly in the G.E. plant in Erie, where they closed the Union Office because of layoffs and the entire grievance machinery came to a stop.

A Look at the Record

The 5-year contract they criticize certainly was a Godsend to UE — it was given to them after the IUE-AFL-CIO had negotiated it without the need for a strike. Let's look at a few of the gains of the so-called "sellout" according to UE:

RATE		GAINS
1955	1960	
\$1.58	\$2.00	Common labor \$.42 per hour including cost of living (plus \$.04 per hour saving on pension contribution)
2.54	3.30	Toolmaker \$.76 per hour including cost of living (plus \$.07 per hour saving on pension contribution)

THE UE WAS AGAINST a Cost of Living provision in the contract, which gives approximately 8% on present earnings.

- There are twenty contract improvements protecting the G.E. workers and their conditions of employment including leave for death in family, jury duty, and military leave.
- The best hospitalization, sick leave pay, and life insurance plans that existed in national union contracts in the country.
- Improved Pension Plan which matched in benefits any existing national contract.

The UE Parasite

Yes, UE was fortunate to have had the benefits of the collective strength of the 100,000 G.E. workers under the banner of IUE-AFL-CIO break through and win those tremendous gains for all G.E. workers, where even those left in UE were given the same.

UE as an organization did nothing, nor could it do anything in 1955 to protect its members. Everyone is wrong but us, says Elusive UE, in trying to evade the cold facts of life and trying to baffle G.E. workers with their "shallow emptiness" which forces them to say that **EVEN THOUGH THE IUE-AFL-CIO HAS 16 MILLION TO BACK THEM UP** in their collective bargaining strength, we can offer you a United Front. Their offer is an Elegy of a poem for "Lament for the Dead".

An example of UE's organizing record can be best realized in the South where many new G.E. plants have opened. They have not organized a single plant as compared to the IUE record of organizing 7 plants since the 1955-60 contract.

THEIR GOAL IS NOT TO ORGANIZE THE UNORGANIZED BUT TO DISRUPT THE ORGANIZED PLANT, HOPING TO SPREAD THEIR DISEASE OF "SHALLOW PRIDE AND EMPTINESS" AND THEIR DESIRE FOR ADMIRATION. THEIR PROGRAM OF DISRUPTION IS DETRIMENTAL AND COSTLY TO EVERY G.E. WORKER.

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE - AFL - CIO

Vol. 7, No. 8 The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, IUE Feb. 26, 1960

JANDREAU CALLS FOR "CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE" BY GE OFFICIALS IN COMING NEGOTIATIONS

Leo Jandreau, Business Agent of Local 301 of the IUE, called for a "constructive attitude" on the part of GE officials in preparations for the coming negotiations this year.

FORAND BILL TO BE "AIRED" ON "LABOR LOOKS AT THE NEWS"

Nelson Cruikshank and Hyman Bookbinder will be our guests this Saturday evening at 6:45 p.m., on "Labor Looks at the News" to bring you their views on the pending Forand Bill which is now coming up in Congress.

Mr. Cruikshank, Director of Social Security, AFL-CIO, will discuss the social aspects of the bill explaining who will pay for it, how it will help those now on pension and what provisions the bill contains.

Hyman Bookbinder will talk about the legislative possibilities of the pending bill becoming law and what every citizen in the community can do to help get this vital legislation passed.

Be sure to listen to your program, "Labor Looks at the News" this and every Saturday evening at 6:45 p.m., WSNY Radio.

VOLUNTEER WEEK - FEB. 29TH-MAR. 4TH

The Volunteer Bureau of Sch'dy (6 Union St.) will mark its first anniversary during the week of Feb. 29 to March 4. "Volunteer Week" will focus attention on the tremendous need for volunteer workers to assist community health, welfare and social agencies in carrying out their vital programs in the Sch'dy area. The bureau is sponsored by the Community Welfare Council and the Junior League of Schenectady.

Volunteers can do a variety of jobs: work with young people, transport aged and ill, assist patients in hospitals, teach arts and crafts; instruct in homemaking and sports; entertain shut-ins, act as receptionists and office workers help with library and tutoring programs, and many others.

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Jandreau, who just returned from a week of meetings in Washington, D.C., reported that a partial and preliminary tabulation of 23,000 ballots received by the Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO, shows that General Electric and Westinghouse workers place job security and income security items first on their list of collective bargaining preferences. About 60 percent of the ballots were received from GE workers; the balance were from employees at Westinghouse.

"In the interest of the welfare of the citizens of our Community, the small business man, and other groups it is our sincere desire to move for an early commencement of negotiations, in order to have our contractual needs discussed and then projected across a bargaining table with sufficient time necessary for accomplishment of their goals", Jandreau stated.

"It is the membership's wish that we have sufficient time to discuss the many knotty problems in a calm atmosphere which will lead to a fair agreement", he added.

Other items ranking high on the list in the recent balloting were: Increased pensions, improved insurance, health and welfare benefits, improved seniority in layoffs, re-hiring and upgrading, continuation of cost-of-living provisions, right to move with job to another city, improved grievance handling, full union shop, general wage increase, longer vacations, shorter work-week, restrictions on overtime when laid off workers are available.

While these are not conclusive of themselves, they show a trend bearing out past union demands stressing job and wage protection. Actual final bargaining demands will, of course, be determined by affiliated unions through their regular procedures.

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