

**"SECTION NIGHT" HUGE SUCCESS
LAST WED. AT IUE AUDITORIUM**

Union members from the Res. Lab, Gas Turbine and Gen. Engr. Lab, attended the IUE Auditorium last Wednesday evening as they held their Annual Section Night affair.

John Shambo, President of IUE Local 301, addressed the group touching on the various contract proposals and other problems facing the Local in this important year of contract negotiations.

Executive Board members and Officers of the Local were also on hand, mixing with the members and helping to answer any problems which were raised during the evening.

Hot-dogs, pizza, clam chowder, soda and beer flowed freely and helped put the finishing touches to an evening of fellowship which will be long remembered.

The committee and others who participated are to be commended for the efficient manner in which the whole affair was handled. Everyone went home with the feeling that these social affairs should be held more often in the future.

A good time was had by all!

**DELEGATES SELECTED FOR STATE
AND NATIONAL CONVENTIONS**

At the July 18th Membership meeting, nominations and elections were held to send delegates to both the State AFL-CIO and the National IUE Conventions this year.

The following delegates were chosen to represent the Local at the State AFL-CIO Convention in New York City on August 29th, 30th, 31st:

John Shambo and Joseph Mangino from the 1st and 3rd shifts, and Fred Pacelli of the 2nd shift. Leo Jandreau will represent the Central Labor Council.

Delegates elected to attend the National IUE Convention in Miami on Sept. 12th-16th, are as follows:

Leo Jandreau, John Shambo from the 1st and 3rd shifts, and Mike Santore from the 2nd shift.

In the event of a strike in October, the delegates to the IUE Convention have decided not to attend since their presence will be needed here at such a time.

**"THINGS TO THINK ABOUT"
By Frank Masterson**

THE FOREIGN COMPETITION HOAX:

Is foreign competition really a threat to your job or is it a "fear campaign" invented by Big Business to undermine your sense of security and force you to accept a sub-standard living wage?

Big Business, including GE, keeps hammering away at the theme that further wage increases would put American Companies out of business and unable to compete with foreign manufacturers. I might point out here that these same corporations have huge investments in this "foreign" (?) market. Is it a foreign market or is it American controlled? It appears that Big Business aims to make a profit both coming and going.

They argue that the difference in wages is the main factor in competing with this so-called foreign market. You, yourself, know and have seen the figures which prove that we would have lost the TVA jobs to the British and others even if we had done the work for nothing. If the American bids had been realistic, we would have been awarded the contracts.

Even though American wages are higher here, the total labor cost per unit-of-product is usually lower because of that great American productivity and "know-how".

Labor costs in Europe and Asia are actually higher than we are led to believe by Big Business because many of these costs are "hidden". For example, health insurance and pensions are listed in the U.S.A. as labor costs....while in Great Britain and many other countries, these and other benefits are financed mostly out of general government revenues where these costs are listed by companies as taxes and not labor costs.

While Big Business (including GE) continues to take aim at the higher American wages, they fail to state that in France non-hourly wage costs amount to 59% of the hourly earnings; in Italy the percentage is 61%; while in the U.S. it stands at only 19%. Who's fooling whom?

Now that negotiations have started, it is IMPORTANT to you, your family and your co-workers that you attend all your future Union Meetings....an informed membership is an educated membership.

See you at the next meeting,
August 15th!

Cost-of-Living Increase Ups Wages .02-.03 Cents Per Hr.

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LOCAL 301 NEWS
IUE AFL-CIO

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EARLY TALKS CHEERED—Local 301 IUE members, in the shadow of the trailer caravan promoting the union's 1960 program, cheer enthusiastically upon receiving news that the IUE-GE negotiations for a new contract would get early consideration. The GE employees were at the union auditorium when word was received that the contract talks would start nearly a month earlier than they were scheduled. The IUE caravan, visiting GE cities all over the east coast, is under the direction of Eric Reuther and Thomas Clark. Reuther is the nephew of Walter Reuther, president of the United Auto Workers Union.

**BE AMERICAN! BUY AMERICAN!
BUY UNION PRODUCTS!**



LOCAL 301 IUE NEWS
AFL-CIO

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301,
REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY
GE WORKERS

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Workers Annoyed At LM&G Practices

By Larry Wilkins, LM&G

A recurring source of annoyance to the stewards and shop workers in LM&G is supervision's practice of filling job openings with short service people while qualified longer service men are available. These complaints are taken up by the Union and most of them are eventually straightened out, but meanwhile the longer service man suffers. He not only loses the work but sometimes loses service credit by not being called back properly. The people feel that the company has service lists and enough information so that these cases should not occur.

It seems that these situations stem from lack of interest by the company in doing what is right rather than from any lack of information. The Union has made numerous protests but only constant vigilance by stewards and members of the Union will prevent these problems.

Indecent Profiteering A Threat

BY ROBERT SMITH

This column, which appeared in the Berkshire Eagle May 16 is hereby reprinted by permission of the author.

President Robert Paxton of General Electric, according to an occasionally reliable source, recently marveled at "the illogic of those who bewail unemployment with one breath and decry profits with the next." You would think, wouldn't you, that Papa Paxton by this time would be inured to illogic, on account of having to read such an endless amount of it in the various private poop sheets that his company utters.

But what he is getting at here is not illogic at all. He is pretending, as hard as he can, that anyone who gripes at a return of about 20 per cent on invested capital—in the holy name of free enterprise—is "decrying profit." This stale device of making believe that criticism of excess is an attack upon the system has been used so long by Organized Greed in its illogical and even hysterical defense of the immediate status quo that it has begun to make their whole argument sound childish. They'd have done better to resort to logic in the first place.

It is certainly not logical to presume that a profit of about 20 cents on every dollar a man invests guarantees a damn thing except eventual trouble. For no nation can watch its wealth concentrate that way, can see its rich grow so much richer so fast, without landing eventually in a depression so deep it will take war or a bitter regulating of the economy to get out of it. It is not "logic" that permits a man to imagine that the indecent profit his dollar brings back is the result of his own shrewdness and vision. That is fairy-tale and ignorance.

Excess profits no more insure job security than excess lard on a man's landing gear insures his children against hunger. They may actually bring a company to ruin—a hell of a lot faster than a ten-cent raise might do it. But to say so out loud in the upstairs offices of General Electric is not merely illogical. It is treason.

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It is part of the credo of Big Business apparently that the threat of competition must be borne by the hired hands. To cut into profit in order to meet prices from overseas would be a violation of the basic GE credo that profit is the most important product.

Now when my small company runs into competition I do not hasten to my hungry hired hands and sob to them about the need for moving into cold water flats and eating meat but once a week in order to keep my business going. I first make damn sure that all the excess fat is cut off where it will come easiest. And I even have been known to experiment with lower prices to see if increased volume does not result. Unfortunately I do not maintain such relations with my competitors that I am able to meet with them and arrange to keep our profit high by dividing the market among us. That sort of skulduggery is for big industry only.

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Just what the going price is for transformers these days I do not know. But I know what American automobiles cost and I assure you they are not worth it. The profit margin has been laid on so thick that almost any dealer will chop a few hundred off a new car even if you have nothing to trade in but your baby's broken stroller. It is not greedy labor or rising wages that have brought

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Cost - of - Living Ups Wages .02 - .03c Per Hour

The recent Cost-of-Living figures released from Washington jumped up to 126.5, which means an increase to all GE workers of from approximately two to three cents an hour—based on your weekly income.

This brings up the average cost-of-living increase, received since the beginning of our 5 year contract up to about 8 3/4 percent. Coupled with your yearly increases since 1954, this means an average increase in pay of about 44 cents for common labor and an increase in pay of about 79 cents for those in the Tool and Die classification.

UE AGAINST C/L CLAUSE

The 5 year contract which the UE criticizes was certainly a godsend to the 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 "sell-out" according to the UE:

Rate	Gains
1'55 1960	
\$1.58-2.02	Common labor \$44 cents per hour including cost of living (plus .04c per hour on pension contribution) saving
\$2.54-3.33	Toolmaker \$.79 per hour including cost of living (plus .07c per hour saving on pension contribution)

THE UE WAS AGAINST a Cost of Living provision in the contract which gives approximately 8 3/4% 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 leadership of our union and the members of our IUE negotiating committee are to be commended for their foresightedness in securing the provisions for a cost-of-living clause in our present 5 year contract.

It meant an added raise in salary of 8 3/4 percent over the past five years in cost-of-living alone!

"Things to Think About"

By Frank Masterson

The Republican Convention will no doubt be over when this paper is issued . . . listening to both parties, if I were a gullible person, which I am not, I would most certainly be very worried about the future of the United States.

If I were to absorb all I have heard at its face value, I would believe that we have no qualified man for the presidency of these United States, but I know that this is not so. I know that come November 2nd, 1960, we will elect a man . . . a good man, who is strong and has the intelligence necessary for the highest office in the Land.

So it is with our contract negotiations . . . the General Electric Company is staging a stupendous propaganda campaign in order to come out of the negotiations as cheaply as possible. One of their programs seems to be to discredit the IUE negotiators in the eyes of the people they represent. We know that an improved contract will be negotiated and people will benefit by it in many ways, which is as it should be in our American way of life.

I am not comparing Mr. Moore with "Mr. K . . ." But he also walked out on the Paris Conference and left a very important job undone. If Mr. K. had taken an intelligent, and not a childish position, and sat down and debated the issues, some good would certainly have come from that conference, even though "Mr. K." resorted to name-calling. Mr. Eisenhower had the intelligence and understanding of a man's action in the heat of an argument.

Though the Company may shed many "crocodile tears" as to the cost of a new contract, I feel very strongly that they will end the years of 1960 and 1961 with a very healthy profit . . . and so, my friends and fellow members, let us not sell Mr. Carey and the IUE negotiating team short. Your faith and support will lighten the load and make the job to be done, by which you will benefit, a little easier.

Come to the Union Hall on August 15th, and attend the membership meeting for a first hand report on the progress of these important negotiations.

I'll see you there . . .

GI Loans for WW II Vets Extended to July 25, 1962

World War II veterans have two more years in which to obtain veterans administration-guaranteed home, farm and business loans as the result of a bill signed on July 14, 1960, by the President, George M. Vadas, manager of the Albany veterans administration regional office, has announced.

Under this same law, both World War II and Korean conflict veterans can continue to apply for direct loans from the federal government if they live in designated rural areas where GI loans are not obtainable from the local lending institutions.

The new law authorizes treas-

ury department advances of \$150 million in each of the next two years of this direct loan extension program.

Vadas stated the new expiration date for the guaranteed loan program for World War II veterans and for the direct loan program for both World War II and Korean veterans is July 25, 1962. The prior deadline for both programs was July 25, 1960.

* * *

Since it was started in June, 1944, the GI loan program has guaranteed more than five million loans to World War II veterans,

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