

LOCAL-301 NEWS

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The Voice of G.E. Workers, Local 301

Dec. 8, 1961.

SUPPLEMENT AGREEMENT SIGNED

The Local Supplement Agreement covering layoffs and rehiring procedures was signed by the officers of Local 301 and local management last Friday, December 1, 1961.

The Supplement was cancelled last October 1960, when the National Agreement between IUE and the G.E. Company terminated on October 1st, 1960, followed by a strike.

The new National Contract became effective on October 24, 1960.

PARTIAL REPORT OF LOCAL 301 ELECTION COMMITTEE

The Election Committee, who are conducting the elections for Shop Stewards and Executive Board Members, have released a partial report as we prepare to go to press on this week's Local 301 News.

John Saccocio and Pat Lombardi, Chairman and Secretary respectively of the Committee, tell us that there was a total of 365 Shop Stewards elected. The membership by-and-large favored experience rather than change because over 83% of the stewards were reelected, numbering 304.

The report shows 56 new Shop Stewards were elected out of a total of 365 elections.

The Election Committee reports that 4 elections were contested which are presently under consideration by the Committee. Also, in one group there were no candidates willing to accept the stewardship.

Discussions have taken place periodically between the local management and Local 301 officers in an effort to reach an agreement on layoffs and rehiring procedures.

The Union's position was that the Local Supplement covering the Bargaining Unit had been in effect for many years in Schenectady and with the tremendous number of employees who had been affected by lack of work, the provisions in the Supplement Agreement had been time tested and proven to be of mutual benefit in recognizing long service and the placement of employees affected by lack of work, particularly in light of the diversified occupations and skills required in the Schenectady plant.

The officers of Local 301 consider the signing of the new Agreement will provide the seniority protection to our membership for the duration of the present Agreement which is in effect until September 29, 1963.

According to the reports made by the delegates at the last G.E. Conference Board meeting held in Ft. Wayne on November 29th and 30th, there are relatively few G.E. Locals who have been successful in renewing their Local Supplements.

Openings have been occurring of recent date...here the Supplement provides for the longest service person to fill the opening from among those downgraded or laid off with recall rights, provided he can do the job with incidental training.

NOTICE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, December 11th, 7:30 p.m.

Officers will meet at 6 p.m.

Union Headquarters - 121 Erie Blvd.

JOB WELL DONE

A short while back the fabrication and welding of gas turbine bases on a whole were being farmed out and the only bases that were being fabricated and welded in Bldg. 66 were those bases on which the outside contractor could not meet the delivery date.

The Company approached the Union representatives and explained that if new methods could be developed, there was a very good possibility that Bldg. 66 could get more of the gas turbine business that was available.

The Union representatives contacted the workers who normally did these bases and told them of the discussion. The workers felt that perhaps better methods could be developed and worked in conjunction with the Planning Dept. toward that goal.

After a period of trial and development, a better method of fabricating and welding was devised and a price was negotiated. The price enabled the men to maintain the earnings which they previously made and Bldg. 66 started to receive orders for gas turbine bases. An order of 8 was built; then an order of 2 and another order of 4. This was 14 out of the 16 gas turbine bases that were ordered during this period. There is an order of 8 currently to be given out and we hope that LM&G will be successful in getting this order.

First they were receiving only sub-contractors' overflow...now they are getting nearly all the gas turbine bases. The workers together with Union representatives Bill Mastriani and Charles Munier of Bldg. 66 are to be congratulated because they were instrumental in obtaining the additional work which resulted in a larger work force in Bldg. 66.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

If a worker cannot ever go back to his regular job after an accident, will he be compensated for the rest of his life?

Not always. For most permanent injuries, the law provides a limited schedule of benefits. For example, a carpenter who suffers an amputation of the right hand is entitled to only 244 weeks of compensation, even though he may never again be able to work in his craft. On the other hand, employees may be compensated indefinitely for other types of permanent injuries if their earnings, because of such injuries,

(cont'd. in next column)

FINAL BALLOT ON EXECUTIVE BOARD WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13

The final vote to determine the election of Executive Board Members will take place in the plant on Wednesday, December 13, 1961.

The names of the two receiving the highest number of votes in the nomination election held on Wednesday December 6, 1961, will appear on the final ballot. The members will vote their choice by selecting one and indicating so on the ballot.

Each final election will be conducted in the various sections similar to the areas where nominations were held for a particular Board Member.

The final ballot also provides space for a "write-in" choice other than the two receiving the highest number of votes.

GAS TURBINE MACHINIST UPGRADED

Union gets management in Gas Turbine to agree on an upgrade for a former Cl. A Machinist.

The Union member was placed on a job which the Company had classified as Cl. B. The employee claimed at the time that the nature and skill of the work involved on this job warranted a Cl. A Machinist rate.

The Shop Steward contacted the foreman and was told that the worker's classification should be changed to the higher rate in light of the evidence. The foreman naturally disagreed with him. The case was scheduled for a 2nd level meeting.

Once again the Union representatives proved beyond a doubt that the employee was doing Cl. A work. The Company finally conceded and agreed to reclassify him to Cl. A and pay this rate retroactive to 10/23/61.

Union representatives who negotiated the case were: Board Member Di Lorenzo and Shop Steward Santore.

continue to be less than the average they earned before the accident.

The question of whether an injured worker who is losing time has to elect to take compensation benefits or disability insurance benefits will be answered in a future issue of the Local 301 News.

Also, the question of the cost of hiring a lawyer in a compensation case will be discussed.