

400,000 Workers Didn't Quit UE In Order to "Lose Their Seniority"

In the past four years 400,000 workers have quit UE and joined IUE-CIO.

As a result, UE has less than 100,000 members left. And it is losing more and more every day.

In GE, more than 80,000 workers dumped UE and joined IUE-CIO.

In Westinghouse, approximately 55,000 did the same. (Today UE represents less than 10,000 Westinghouse workers.)

In General Motors, 40,000 voted overwhelmingly for IUE-CIO. Today UE does not represent a single GM worker.

Ever since 1950, when the overwhelming majority of GE workers joined IUE-CIO, more and more GE plants have quit UE in order to unite the GE chain.

In every election against UE unity is the issue, and time after time GE workers endorse IUE-CIO.

That was the issue every year for the last three years in Lynn when UE tried to win back that GE plant, the second largest in the GE chain. Every time the GE workers in Lynn repudiated UE and endorsed IUE-CIO.

The need for uniting all GE workers in one Union, they all agree, is too

important to let tradition or personalities stand in the way.

The result of this drive to unite the GE chain is that today IUE-CIO can speak with the strength of 100,000 GE workers when we meet Boulware at the collective bargaining table.

That is too much for him to sneer at. Now he won't be able to throw our demands back in our face.

The story is the same in Philco and RCA—they're all in IUE-CIO. And on down the list — Sperry Gyroscope, Emerson Radio and T-V, Exide Battery, Federal Tel and Tel, etc.

The workers in those plants and hundreds of others all quit UE because they wanted to be united

and in the mainstream of the labor movement.

None of these workers lost seniority, lost piece-work protection, or lost any thing else. Instead they gained. They won stronger Contracts in IUE-CIO than they ever enjoyed under UE because they were solidly united in their locals and in their chain set-ups.

Furthermore, these workers realized that the UE was unable to organize new plants, especially the run-away shops the chains are opening up in the South. IUE-CIO organized these plants . . . such as the big new GE Appliance Park in Louisville, Ky. . . . GE's big tube plant in Anniston, Alabama . . . the new GE Fractional Horsepower Motor plant in Linton, Indiana . . . and is organizing the others that are just now being opened, in such places as Rome, Georgia.

UE's inability to organize proves that it can not do the job required for GE workers and the hundreds of thousands of other employees in our industry.

Only a strong industrial Union can do that job. That Union is IUE-CIO—the Union that represents more electrical manufacturing workers than all other unions combined.

8 Petitions

IUE-CIO now has eight petitions pending for NLRB elections in GE plants. They are:

1. Scranton, Pa.
2. Bloomfield, N. J.
3. Newark, N. J.
4. Long Island City, N. Y.
5. Cincinnati, O.
6. Erie, Pa.
7. Schenectady, N. Y.
8. Montreal, Canada

The first seven are former UE locals. The Montreal plant is the GE clerical unit, presently unorganized.

Unity of 100,000 GE Workers Means Higher Wages and More Job Security

The Following 56 GE Locals Are United in IUE-CIO

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Alameda, Calif. | Everett, Mass. | Minneapolis, Minn. | Schenectady, N. Y. |
| Anniston, Alabama | Fort Wayne, Ind. | Montreal, Quebec | (Main Plant) |
| Auburn, New York | Holyoke, Mass. | (2 Locals) | Schenectady, N. Y. (Knolls 2) |
| Bridgeport, Conn. | Huntingburg, Ind. | New Kensington, Pa. | Schenectady, N. Y. (Maqua) |
| (2 Locals) | Irvington, N. J. | Newark, N. J. | Seattle, Wash. |
| Bridgeville, Pa. | Johnstown, Pa. | New York, N. Y. | Springfield, N. J. |
| Bucyrus, Ohio | Lachine, Quebec | Oakland, Calif. | Syracuse, N. Y. |
| Cambridge, Mass. | Liuton, Ind. | Oakville, Ontario | Tell City, Ind. |
| Charleston, W. Va. | Long Beach, Calif. | Peterborough, Ontario | Toronto, Ontario |
| Cleveland, Ohio | Long Island City, N. Y. | Philadelphia, Pa. (2 Locals) | Trenton, N. J. |
| Clifton, N. J. | Los Angeles, Calif. | Pittsburgh, Pa. | Wabash, Ind. |
| Coburg, Ontario | Louisville, Ky. | Pittsfield, Mass. (2 Locals) | Warren, Ohio |
| DeKalb, Illinois | Lynn, Mass. | Providence, R. I. | Waterford, N. Y. |
| Euclid, Ohio | Milwaukee, Wis. | Quebec City, Quebec | Youngstown, Ohio |

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE CIO

Vol. 1 — No. 5

The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y.

April 30, 1954

Petitions Demand Election

GE workers want an immediate election and they are letting the NLRB know it. Petitions were circulated through the plant on Tuesday urging the Board to order an election immediately. At press time, practically the entire plant was on record in support of the petitions, which will be sent to Washington.

6,000 Lose Jobs In UE Erie Plant

In Erie, UE's only major GE plant left, six thousand workers are seeing their jobs moved out. That is half the Erie plant.

The entire Refrigeration Division in Erie is being moved away. The move will be completed this fall.

Already more than 1,200 Erie GE workers are walking the streets because UE could not keep their jobs. Those jobs are in the Locomotive division, primarily the Motor and Cabinet units.

GE announced its move of Refrigeration work to its new Louisville plant more than a year ago.

UE went down to Louisville and tried to organize it. It failed.

But IUE-CIO succeeded in organizing Louisville. In that election, which was held last August, IUE-CIO defeated UE by a vote of 1,047 to 186. Eventually GE will employ 16,000 people in the Louisville plant.

So you see why UE shouts about "unemployment" here in Schenectady: In order to cover up its own miserable failure in Erie, Sunbury (see page 3) and dozens of other plants where the company took advantage of UE's weakness.

First reports indicated that many departments had signed up 100%.

Quick tallies in other departments showed that practically every department has surpassed the 90% figure.

This petition drive backs up a telegram sent to the NLRB on Monday of this week by the duly elected Officers of Local 301. That telegram, directed to NLRB Chairman Guy Farmer, states:

"Twelve thousand GE workers, former members of UE, signed petitions on March 10 confirming their desire to leave UE and join IUE-CIO. The 12,000, along with all the Officers, Executive Board members and 90% of the Shop Stewards, petitioned the NLRB on March 16 for a speedy election.

"This constitutes a very large majority of the 15,000 Union members in this unit. With such a mass schism and with the evidence in your hands, it seems to us a clear-cut case to justify an election immediately."

"Now that the IAM has withdrawn," the telegram continues, "the UE is the only party opposing an election."

In this regard the wire states: "UE is deliberately creating confusion and harrasing the local GE workers. With its entire field staff from all over the country in Schenectady, UE is using all the methods of trickery so well known to UE organizers.

"But the local GE workers who want to get out of UE are conducting their own campaign without outside assistance."

In concluding the wire told of the difficulties in the plant as the company continues to take advantage of the UE stall. Furthermore, it points out, vacations will be starting on June 1, and unless an election is held soon, many workers may not be in the plant to vote.

IUE-CIO Majority Now Over 95%

Last Friday, as reported exclusively in the IUE-CIO Local 301 News, IAM withdrew from the campaign. Now it is a straight-out contest between the UE outsiders and IUE-CIO Local 301.

In reviewing this situation at the Executive Board meeting at Union Headquarters Monday night, Local 301 Board Members reported that the vote for Local 301 in the plant continues to grow.

First reports indicated a better-than 90% majority for IUE-CIO. But now that IAM has withdrawn, the vote will be in the vicinity of 96%.

People who formerly supported IAM are now solid behind IUE-CIO. Many, the Board reported, have already asked for IUE-CIO buttons.

UE still cannot make any headway.

The Board reports show that GE workers are not fooled by UE's stalling tactics. It is obvious that the national UE is fighting only for its own selfish interests — not for the people.

Let's continue to build our Local 301 majority. Then, as soon as the election is out of the way and the outsiders are off our backs, we can tackle the company from the strongest possible position, both in the local and in negotiations nationally.

Beware — Outsiders Push Blank Petitions

It is noticed lately that the outsiders are circulating petitions in and around the plant.

As usual with the UE's experts in trickery, the petitions are not labeled as to their purpose. Many are just pieces of paper.

This, therefore, is to warn all GE workers about these petitions.

Sometimes the outsiders will say a petition is for "taxes"; some other time it will be a "protest"; and some other time it will be for something else.

The point is: Beware of these phony petitions. UE might hand you a "tax" petition and say "Sign it." But when it comes out in a UE paper or leaflet, you might find that it was a "Loyalty pledge to UE."

Such as the way UE tricked Charles Munier, Steward in Bldg. 52. Here is the way Brother Munier related the facts on his case in a sworn affidavit at Local 301 Headquarters:

"On April 20 I attended a meeting at UE headquarters. My sole purpose in attending was — at the request of some men in my building — that I might find out all the facts on both sides.

"While at the meeting I was handed a lost-time voucher, together with a green card and asked to sign both.

"It was not until later that I realized that the green card was actually a UE 'pledge' card and that I had signed to 'support UE.'

"I wish to deny vigorously that I have any such feelings of loyalty or allegiance to UE and that I am, in fact, in support of Local 301's almost unanimous desire to affiliate with IUE-CIO."

Local 301 Comp Cases Win \$6000 for Members

After being tied up for several weeks by all sorts of UE "legal" cases, Local 301 Attorney Leon Novak was able to return to the job of handling Compensation cases for 301 members on April 26.

In the two days that followed he won settlements in a half-dozen odd cases that brought more than \$6,000 to 301 members.

Here are the major awards won by Mr. Novak:

- A man in Bldg. 52 was awarded \$3,993.60 for an injury to his arm.
- A man in Bldg. 273 received an award of \$550 for a permanent injury to his thumb.
- A foot injury to a man in Bldg. 269 received \$656.
- A worker in Bldg. 15 won

\$125 as a result of a facial scar.

- A Bldg. 97 employee received \$147.20 as a result of an injury to a finger.
- A total of \$454.40 was awarded to a member in Bldg. 16 who received injuries to fingers.

Other awards won through the offices of the Local 301 attorney included payment for time lost from work and reduced earnings that resulted from accidents.

Local 301 members can count on continued successful processing of their Compensation cases by Mr. Novak whenever the need arises.

Sunbury Local Quits UE Amid Mass Layoffs

Last week another local dumped UE and moved to unite with its former Union brothers and sisters.

In Sunbury, Pa., the employees of the Ralph Shipman Company disaffiliated from UE with a practically unanimous vote. Only one person voted for staying with UE.

This was UE Local 609.

UE represents another plant in Sunbury — Westinghouse. However, because UE is too weak to do anything about it, the company is moving practically all of the 2,000 or more jobs in that plant away from Sunbury.

UE's weakness in Westinghouse is worse than it is in GE. Today UE represents less than 10,000 Westinghouse workers, while IUE-CIO represents 58,000. UE has only four or five Westinghouse plants left.

All over the country workers are throwing out UE and moving to unite again. Particularly in the big chains like GE and Westinghouse.

That is because they realize that they can win the gains they deserve only by being united in negotiations.

301 On the Job

Bldg. 52: Board Member Scott has been chosen by K. Schubert to handle a case involving a price cut on drwg. 151D409. Price should be increased from 6:50 to 12.00.

Bldg. 69: Board Member DiLorenzo will represent A. Laudato who has been laid off due to lack of work but has not received a suitable offer.

Bldg. 273: C. Sykes and J.

Szulgala protest the cutting of standard prices where there have been no changes in method. Board Members McColl and LaVeyra will handle their cases in Bldg. 41.

CAP: Board Member Mitch will handle the case of D. Parisi who has been laid off for lack of work but has not received a suitable offer.

Bldg. 77: M. Levy is protesting the inadequate job rate on the can filling machine. Board Member DiLorenzo will take this case up with management for proper evaluation and rate increase.

Bldg. 269: M. Richmond has not received a proper offer in the Dept. after notice of layoff. Board Member Gray will handle this case in Bldg. 41 to have proper bump made.

Detroit Dumps UE, Votes IUE-CIO

On April 23 workers at Power Equipment Company, Detroit, threw out UE and voted IUE-CIO in an NLRB election. This was UE Local 947.

That is the second UE local in Detroit to vote IUE-CIO in the past six weeks.

Outsiders Fail in Attempt To Steal Local 301 Funds

All last week the outsiders continued their harrassment of the elected Local 301 leadership. Again they tied up the Officers in court to keep them away from their jobs of handling grievances and solving problems in the plant.

Their "fishing expedition" continued, too.

Attorneys for the outsiders continued to fish around to see if they could find "proof" to substantiate their phony charges. They even tried to get one of their outside accountants into the Local 301 office to get his hands on Local 301's financial records.

This exposed the outsiders' real reason for this procedure: They are only trying to get their hands on the funds and property of the Local 301 members.

But the Officers refused to give the outsiders this chance. Instead the Officers testified in Court that the funds are still intact and that UE cannot get hold of them.

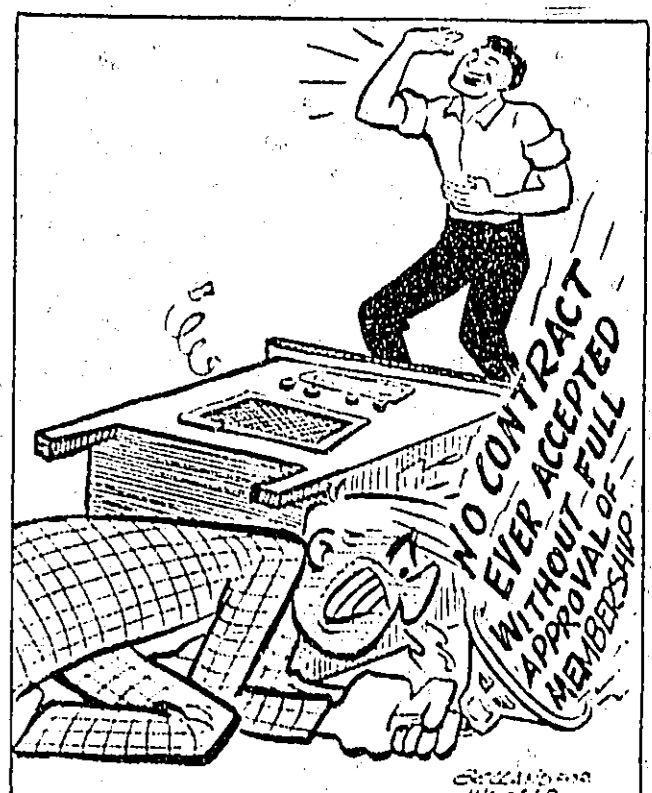
Further testimony by the Officers of Local 301 showed that there was no violation in any way of the "contempt" order UE obtained in New York City.

That "order" permitted con-

tinuation of normal expenditures. The Officers testified that in the period March 13 to March 31 (the period UE was interested in) only \$5,000 had been expended. This is only 60% of what would normally be spent in the same period of time on regular Union business. And much of that was spent solely for the purpose of protecting Union property from the outsiders who tried to take over.

Furthermore, not a single cent of Local 301 money has been spent since that time.

Although the case has been continued over this week, UE still has not given up. Over the weekend, it issued still more subpoenas against GE workers who were elected by the people in the plant. All of these subpoenas are signed by Marshall Perlin, the New York City attorney who was fired by Local 301 in 1950 after he opposed our resolution supporting U. S. action to stop aggression in Korea.



Crandall Quits

George Crandall is known as a "UE supporter." Last week he held a "mass meeting" in Bldg. 273. Six people showed up. This week he repeated his "big deal." Three people showed.

Crandall has stopped calling meetings.

Upgrading Victory

Chester Stroyk of Bldg. 12 was laid off for lack of work from his Class E Inspector's job — \$2.00 1/2 an hour. After filing a grievance he was offered a Class F job at \$1.92 1/2.

He designated Steward R. Jandreski to take the case to Bldg. 41. As a result he got a satisfactory offer in Bldg. 60 at \$2.08 an hour.

301 Women Leaders Blast UE Lies

In the same way as the men, women leaders of Local 301 are staying on the job, enforcing the Contract and solving the problems of Schenectady GE workers—in spite of the harrassment by the outsiders.

At a regular meeting April 21 the duly elected Local 301 women leaders agreed that the interference and disruption by the UE outsiders is making it more difficult to enforce the Contract and carry out their duties.

But they vowed to stay on the job and work twice as hard and maintain Local 301's outstanding record on grievances. A resolution adopted along this line stated:

"Under no circumstances will we permit the company to take advantage of the present situation that is created by UE's refusal to permit an election. We

will keep tab on any advantages taken by the company during this period. And when the election has finally been held, we will make the company correct such situations."

A second resolution adopted by the women condemned the UE outsiders. Especially for the lies they peddle.

This resolution, also adopted unanimously, stated: "These outsiders have exposed themselves. By their stall-

ing, interference and harrassment of our Local 301 Contract-enforcement activity in the shop, they made it clear that they are not acting in the best interests of Schenectady GE workers.

"In fact, all of their acts are opposed to the best interests of GE workers.

"They are completely bankrupt.

"Because of its bankruptcy, UE will lie about anything. It

has gotten to the point where you can't believe anything the outsiders write or say.

"Therefore, we warn all GE workers not to be taken in by these UE lies."

As Board Member Ethel Furman put it:

"Local 301 is staying on the job. We were on the job before UE ever came to Schenectady and we will be here long after it leaves."



Local 301 Women Leaders at their last meeting at Union headquarters.

