The Voice of G.E. Workers, Local 301

## FLIGHT TEST TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT

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A bright spot in the employment picture comes from Flight Test.

Information received by Board Member Joe Korszun, who represents workers there, indicates employment at this installation will increase substantially by October 1961.

The number of workers employed in our Bargaining Unit at the present time is 60. This figure is expected to increase in excess of 100 by October.

All employees laid off have been called back to work. Presently the Employment Office is in the process of hiring new help.

The reason for the upswing in employment is due to the awarding of a contract for major overhaul and repairs to 35 aircraft of the conventional type. This work is expected to last between 6 to 8 months.

#### NOTICE

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, August 14th, at 7:30 p.m. Officers will meet at 6:00 p.m.

## EMPLOYMENT HITS NEW HIGH

August 11, 1961.

The hourly rated employees working in the Bargaining Unit, represented by Local 301, rose to an all year high according to the report by management on August 4, 1961.

According to the report, 8,380 were working, which is 32 more than were employed in January when the size of the Bargaining Unit was 8,348.

Employment dropped to a low of 8,135 in April of this year.

The August report showed an increase in overtime hours worked. The average hours reported for July were 43.2 hours. The increase in overtime hours has been taking place gradually since the beginning of June.

The Union officers protested to management concerning this increase in overtime in light of the unemployment. Management claimed that some of the overtime was due to the heavy vacation schedule. However, they agreed to check each department as to the reason for the overtime.

The Union officials pointed out that 600 more employees could be working a 40-hour week based on the August report.

#### SWEDISH LABOR REPRESENTATIVE VISITS UNION OFFICE

Tuesday morning, Mr. Arne Derefeldt paid a visit to the Union Office. Mr. Derefeldt is a former vice-president of one of Sweden's Confederation of Labor Councils. He is touring our country through the courtesy of the U.S. Labor Department for the purpose of studying labor management relations and other facets of the American Labor Movement.

Mr. Derefeldt sought answers to questions concerning our membership enrollment, local autonomy, wages and working conditions. Apparently, much of this information and data he has accumulated will be used as a basis to formulate plans to raise the wages, working conditions and living standards of the working class in Sweden.

He mentioned meeting with many Union and Industry representatives during his tour and noted in his observations that there is a vast difference in the climate or the type of relationship between Labor and management in the various sections of our country.

# MAC DEPT. REVISES INVENTORY SCHEDULE

As a result of many complaints by workers in the MAC Dept., Union representatives in the department requested a meeting with management to discuss the anticipated loss of one day's pay due to the taking of inventory on Friday, August 25th.

During the discussions, Union representatives contended that other methods or procedures should be explored in conducting the inventory which would result in minimum loss of pay for the workers.

Management agreed to consult with the superintendents involved in the matter.

As a result, the MAC Dept. announced the following schedule: all production workers will report for work at 7:00 a.m. They will work at their jobs from 7 to 12. Inventory will begin after the lunch period.

The complete job of inventory is expected to take 3 hours instead of the normal 8 hours. This means that many more than the usual amount of workers will be used for the job. Because of the revision in plans, pre-inventory work will be necessary.

This agreement is a very good example of what can be accomplished when the Company is made aware of its moral responsibilities.

We hope other departments who are contemplating inventory will devise methods whereby the workers will not be forced to lose a day's pay.

#### -FLASH ...

As we go to press, Pres. John Shambo has announced that the Large Motor & Generator Dept. has also revised their inventory schedule.

Inventory will be taken on Saturday, August 26th, instead of Friday, August 25th, as originally planned. Employees are to report for work at their usual hour on Friday, August 25th.

Hats off to the Union representatives of the MAC and LM&G Depts!

#### BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER

#### ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS

## SWEDISH LABOR REP. (Cont'd.)

Two important remarks he made were of particular interest, namely, there is full employment in Sweden; at the present time approximately 20% of their industries are automated.

No implementation of automation is made in any industry without first relocating workers who are displaced as a result of such automation or other technological changes. Labor and Industry are working together to achieve their common goal of greater utilization of automation in order to produce in more abundance the goods and products needed.

With regard to the effects of automation on labor in the United States, the American Labor Movement has been attempting to achieve a similar objective by negotiating retraining programs for displaced workers. Some Unions have had a certain degree of success along these lines.

The other interesting point he made was in connection with pensions. He stated that a worker's pension benefits are computed by taking an average of his thirty(30) best years and receiving two-thirds (2/3) of this figure as his annual pension income. In addition, he also receives government old age pension.

#### MOOSE LODGE TO CONDUCT BINGO IN LOCAL 301 AUDITORIUM

A contract has recently been signed between Local 301, IUE, and the Loyal Order of Moose for the rental of our Auditorium for the purpose of conducting Bingo.

This makes two organizations who will be utilizing our facilities for this purpose.

The Veteran Post 357 conduct their Bingo on Tuesday evenings and the Loyal Order of Moose will conduct theirs on Wednesday evenings.

These rentals, together with others, such as for weddings, banquest and exhibits substantially help to defray the expense of operating and improving our facilities.

One project which is now under way is the enlargement of the meeting room in the Union Office Bldg. This room, when completed, will be made available for department meetings, leaving the Auditorium open for bookings any day other than the regular monthly membership meeting.