

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE - AFL - CIO

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3.46% INCREASE EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1959

Effective next Tuesday, September 15, all wage rates will reflect an increase of 3.46%. This will be the 5th and last general wage increase provided for in the 1955-1960 Wage Agreement. The contracts covering all conditions of employment including Wages, Pensions, Sick and Death Benefits expire October 1, 1960. It is expected that negotiations for new agreements will start 60 days prior to contract termination or on about August of 1960.

EXPERIENCED GLASS BLOWERS WANTED

JOB DESCRIPTION:
Female, must be 5'2" tall, weigh 120½ lbs. blue-eyed, blonde, must use Ipana toothpaste, and follow a "special" diet.

In addition, she must arise at 6:00 a.m., do moderate exercises, eat 1 pc. of toast, no butter, 1 egg, 1 half grapefruit, and 1 cup of black coffee.

She must arrive in the plant at 6:45 a.m., plus or minus one (1) minute, speak softly to the foreman and proceed to perform her related duties.

Sounds foolish? Well, let's take a look at what's been going on in the Power Tube Section recently.

Women in the Camera Tube Section (experienced glass blowers) whose occupation is blowing targets and work at the R-16 rate (\$2.18 per hr.) are expected to produce an 18 to 25% yield. (cont'd. pg. 2)

The present agreements provided along with increased wages, reductions in premium payments for pensions, whereby employees were paying 2% of their wages up to the Social Security maximums which were subject to tax (\$4200.00 - 1955), (\$4800.00 - 1959) and 5% of the remainder of their annual compensation. These premiums have been reduced whereby G.E. pays the premium up to \$4800.00 of annual wages and the employee pays 3% of his wages that are over \$4800.00 rather than the former 5%.

The Cost of Living Adder has helped to maintain the purchasing level of the increased wages, with the present percentage of approx. 7% added to the earnings.

The five wage increases that have been provided in the 5-year agreement and how they affected rates from Common Labor to Toolmaking are shown on back page.

RATES OF HOURLY RATED EMPLOYEES Effective Sept. 15, 1959

DAYWORK RATES			PIECEWORK RATES		
SYMBOL	9-15-58	9-15-59	SYMBOL	9-15-58	9-15-59
* R-10	1.795	1.855	I-14	2.015	2.085
R-11	1.845	1.91	I-15	2.075	2.145
R-12	1.905	1.97	I-16	2.145	2.22
R-13	1.965	2.03	I-17	2.21	2.285
R-14	2.02	2.09	I-18	2.28	2.36
R-15	2.085	2.16	I-19	2.365	2.45
R-16	2.18	2.255	I-20	2.45	2.535
R-17	2.265	2.34	I-21	2.54	2.63
R-18	2.36	2.44	I-22	2.625	2.72
R-19	2.46	2.545	I-23	2.72	2.81
R-20	2.555	2.645	I-24	2.81	2.905
R-21	2.655	2.745	I-25	2.88	2.98
R-22	2.725	2.82	I-26	2.95	3.055
R-23	2.80	2.90	I-27	3.015	3.12
R-24	2.88	2.98	I-28	3.09	3.195
** R-25	2.96	3.06	I-29	3.16	3.27
R-26	3.035	3.14	I-30	3.23	3.345
R-27	3.11	3.215	I-31	3.305	3.415
R-28	3.185	3.295			

* - Common Labor ** - Tool & Die

IUE-GE Conference Board Resolutions

At the recent GE Conference Board in Washington, D. C., the following platform was resolved:

1. AN INTENSIVE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE to organize all the unorganized in the General Electric Chain.

2. TO FORMULATE CONTRACT DEMANDS for the coming negotiations in 1960.

3. ALL OUT SUPPORT for the members of Local 455, IUE, Trenton, N. J., who are now entering their 10th week of strike against GE.

The following message was also resolved:

TODAY IN SPITE OF ITS RECORD PROFITS General Electric is intensifying its attack upon the standards of the GE employees.

It is doing this by wholesale layoffs, movement of products out of plants, speedups, cutting of rates and trying to undermine the protections in the contract.

There is hardly a plant where this offensive against the GE employees is not being carried out.

GE protests that it must do this "to be competitive." In Lynn, it claims that it must cut turbine costs by 15%. Instead of reducing the heavily inflated prices, instead of cutting down on the fantastic officer's bonuses and stock option plans, GE is trying to squeeze this 15% out of the employees by cutting employment 15% and making the rest of the employees work 15% harder.

WHILE GE ENJOYS RECORD PROSPERITY there are still many thousands of its employees laid off. Many have exhausted unemployment compensation and are living on miserable relief. At the same time, employees of steel, auto, rubber, canning, aluminum and other industries get \$25 weekly or more in SUB payments and are entitled to up to \$3,000 in separation pay if laid off for more than 12 months.

Last year GE refused our demands for employment security on the grounds that "economic conditions" did not permit it. There are no "economic conditions" either then or today that prevent it from meeting its obligations as outlined in the 1955 agreement to negotiate on employment security. Thousands of our members who were laid off in 1957 and 1958 know what suffering they went through. Many thousands of others were downgraded or worked short work weeks. The communities suffered from the inadequate purchasing power available.

We know that in the next two years there will come the inevitable downpour again when more thousands will be thrown onto the streets. We must not wait until then to secure protection.

THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY, led notably by GE, is one of the few industrial holdouts against employment security.

We cannot expect to improve our conditions in any field unless we are able to convince GE that we mean to achieve justice and equity on employment security. We cannot expect GE to respect us on other matters unless we are able to stand together on employment security.

We know that negotiations for 1960 are important. But it is clear from what we see today on the industrial front, that the employers' group prodded by GE are refusing to bargain any improvement unless workers give up more than the benefits received through weakening of contract protections.

IT IS CLEAR that unless we are prepared to get GE to respect us and to negotiate in good faith this year, our negotiations for 1960 will be weakened.

The 1958 reopener on employment security is still open. Negotiations were ended last year by the refusal of GE to continue them. We must now insist that negotiations be resumed and that bargaining continue to reach an agreement on employment security before the end of 1959.

Be it therefore resolved that the Negotiating Committee be empowered to put to GE our demand for the resumption of negotiations and to develop a campaign among the local membership and communities to support this demand.

IUE-GE Conference Board August 28, 1959

Remember!

Drive Carefully Over Labor Day Weekend

Send the Children to School on Tuesday

MAC TOOLROOM CHOOSES ROTATION

(Continued from Page 1)
tion to rotate as they had agreed to do.

This utter callousness on the part of management is hard to understand and the only conclusion that we can draw is that the workers in the plant understand their moral obligations to each other but management feels no such obligation to any of their workers.

Again, we must repeat--Is this what GE means when it continues to state that "We do right voluntarily by our workers"?

WSNY 1240 ON YOUR DIAL

"LABOR LOOKS AT THE NEWS"

SATURDAY EVENINGS — 6:45-7:00 P. M.

— Sponsored by Local 301, I. U. E. —