

3. Strikes called without vote of the membership.
4. Strikes called off without vote of the membership.
5. Demands given up and settlements accepted without the membership even knowing what's in the settlement. Like the 1949 \$600-package demand which was given up for a pension plan which will benefit very few steelworkers, and give very little to these few. (GE workers rejected GE's offer based on the steel "pattern", because GE's inadequate pension plan is better than the steel settlement).
6. Seniority which applies ONLY if "physical fitness" and "ability" are "relatively equal".
7. Holidays off WITHOUT PAY.
8. Shift premium of 4 cents for 2nd shift—6 cents for third—to UE's 10 percent for both.
9. No double time at all. Time and one half for work on holidays. To get time and a half on sixth or seventh day, you must have worked the first five days in the week.
10. Speed-up with official backing of the union.
11. Only one shop steward for every 500 workers.
12. President's salary of \$25,000 and expenses. (UE general president's salary is \$7,500).
13. Officers elected for 4 years.
14. Conventions only once in every two years.
15. No local autonomy. Charters of locals "lifted" for fighting to win grievances.
16. Entire vote of locals opposing Murray are thrown out by ruling of Murray's office.
17. Opponents of national officers beaten up by national office payrollers. This happened at the Boston convention of the Steelworkers, to the one delegate who dared suggest a fight for higher wages.
18. Dues are checked off by the companies and are paid directly to the international union, instead of to the local.

"The Iron Age," newspaper of the steel employers, summed up the Murray record recently. It said that steel industry leaders did not want to beat Murray too badly in the recent strike, because they need Murray's "power to hold the membership in line."

Yes—Murray walks the Steelworkers on a leash.

GE workers don't want to be walked on a leash—neither by Murray nor by his office boy Carey, nor by their self-appointed local leaders.

GE workers want to continue to run their own union, to make their own decisions. They want a union that will fight for them and protect their standards.

That is why GE workers will

VOTE UE

Issued by UE Local 301, 301 Liberty Street, Schenectady, N. Y.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF LOCAL 301 - - - U. E. R. & M. W. A.

Vol. 8, No. 17

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

May 12, 1950

Making Final Plans for Election May 25

UE Leads the Field in Wage Increases

Now the IUE-CIO is trying to get GE workers to believe that CIO unions won a "fourth round" wage increase in 1949. They actually said that in a green and maroon leaflet handed out last week.

The fact is that the Steelworkers, Auto Workers, and other major CIO unions gave up a fourth round increase for 1949, and also for 1950. They settled for miserable pension plans. UE locals not hampered by IUE disruption won a fourth round.

The rest of the leaflet, claiming that UE wage levels are lower than CIO industries, is just as untrue as the "fourth round" statement. Here are the facts:

UE Rates Higher

Job for job, rates are higher in UE. The figures quoted by the IUE simply cover up the number of light jobs and women's jobs. For example, the basic steel industry, with a claimed hourly average of \$1.61, employs only men. The hourly average for men in the Schenectady GE Works is \$1.73.

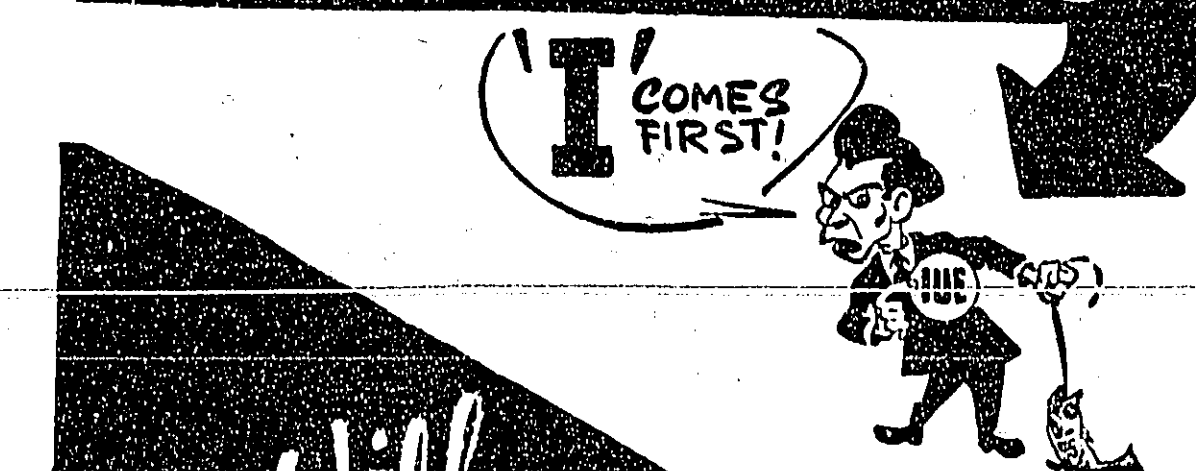
The UE, Steel and Auto unions won the same wage increases from 1946 to 1949, with these changes in detail: in 1947 UE set the pattern of 11½ cents and paid holidays, while Steel received 12½ cents, no holidays, certain minor rate adjustments, and a promise of insurance which did not come through until 1950. In 1948 UE won an 8 percent raise, averaging over 11 cents an hour. Later in the year Steel obtained a 9.5 cent raise and adjustments.

Government Figures

Government figures, from the Fact-Finding Board report, show that UE raised real wages most since 1939.

And on top of this, UE contracts are by far the best in all conditions in addition to wages — holidays, vacations, seniority, grievance conditions. The GE pension plan, inadequate as it is, is much superior to the ones negotiated by Philip

WITH THE PHONIES...



Membership Meeting

A big turn-out of UE-801 members is expected for the membership meeting and election rally at the union hall the week of the NLRB election. Loud speakers will be installed on the sides of the building.

Second shift workers will meet immediately after work Monday night, May 22 (at 12:45 a. m. Tuesday, May 23), and first and third shift workers at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday, May 23.

Murray and Walter Reuther after strikes in steel and at Chrysler, and for which they gave up wage increases for two years.

These pension plans did not take effect until 1950, but Reuther calls even the Chrysler deal a 1949 "victory".

UE on Right Hand Side of NLRB Ballot

UE will be on the right hand side of the ballot in the NLRB vote May 25.

Keep this in mind, because IUE is still showing its imitation character by going on the ballot with "Local 301" after its initials.

It also tried to steal "UE" as part of its name, but a Federal Court order forbid it. IUE spends its time attacking UE, but as a method of getting votes it wants the workers to believe it is UE.

IUE even tried to make its local literature look like this UE paper in outward appearance, in the hope that more people will accept it at the gates.

It's a strictly imitation union that hasn't organized a single un-

Very Heavy Support for UE Reported

Final arrangements are being made for the National Labor Relations Board election May 25 at GE in Schenectady and throughout the chain.

A conference was scheduled for yesterday on the company's list of eligible voters for the whole Schenectady plant. UE, IUE, AFL Teamsters and IAM were to be represented at the meeting, with GE and NLRB officials.

Mail Ballots for Drivers

Ballots for the Schenectady election were to be mailed Wednesday of this week to 34 over-the-road truck drivers, loaders and relief drivers.

Reports every day indicate that the 125,000 GE workers will vote overwhelmingly for UE. The big Erie Works is solidly UE and even the New York Times admitted Sunday that IUE is worried stiff about the Lynn vote. With Schenectady, these are the biggest plants of the GE system. In 28 GE plants IUE hasn't even been able to set up a paper local.

UE Strong at Lynn

The Times article reported that IUE organizers "expressed apprehension" over the UE's "substantial gains among the rank-and-file workers" at Lynn.

"The IUE apparently has been losing ground," the Times commented.

Frederick M. Kelley, former business agent of UE Local 201 at Lynn, is on the top policy committee of IUE and has been trying to (Continued on page two)

organized shop. It just tries to steal members from UE in raids.

GE workers won't be fooled by the imitation union. They want the real thing.

VOTE UE. The right hand side of the ballot.

\$4,992 Compensation Award Heads New List

Workmen's compensation awards made recently in cases handled for UE-301 members through the union include:

\$4,992 to Edward Hasbrouck, Bldg. 85 machine repair, for 50 per cent loss of use of his right arm as the result of an accident Apr. 28, 1949.

\$2,498 to Louis Pasquariello, Bldg. 40 sprayer, for 20 per cent loss of the use of his right leg in an accident Sept. 1, 1944.

\$1,561 to Frank Miano, Bldg. 40 sweeper, for 20 per cent loss of the use of his right hand in an accident July 26, 1948.

\$1,500 to Steve Gynomy, Bldg. 27 salvage, for facial disfigurement resulting from burns May 9, 1949.

\$1,382.40 to John Farrell, Bldg. 60 helper on truck, for 15 per cent loss of the use of his left leg in an accident last July 19.

\$600 to James D. McKiever, Bldg. 61 cleaner, for a facial scar resulting from an accident last June 30.

\$350 to Patsy Maruniello, Bldg. 60 assembler, for injuries to his right thumb July 16, 1948.

Making Final Plans For NLRB Election

(Continued from page one)

work himself into James B. Carey's job as president.

Arrangements for the mail ballot for the truck group were made Monday at a conference of representatives of UE, Teamsters, IUE, the company and the NLRB.

The mail voters must return their ballots to the New York City office of the NLRB by May 22. The sealed envelopes will be brought to Schenectady to be opened on election day, May 25, and counted at the same time as the rest of the votes.

There are only 21 other GE truckers here and they are employed on Atomic Energy Commission work. They will vote May 25 at the plant.

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CONGRESSMAN DRIPP

by YOMEN



"Cheer up, darling. If the unions beat you next November maybe GE will hire you as a lobbyist like Kersten."

Don't Be Sidetracked from Main Issue Of Election, Matles Tells Stewards

"Stick to the record of UE for 14 years. Don't be sidetracked from the real issue which is bread and butter."

This campaign advice on the NLRB election was given to the UE-301 shop stewards' meeting last week by James J. Matles, national UE director of organization. He warned against "chasing every piece of IUE propaganda".

GE workers will decide May 25 whether to keep UE, which is run by the membership, or pick a union that is dictated to by Philip Murray, Matles pointed out.

"To walk with Philip Murray means walking backward."

Inferior Steel Conditions

Matles reminded the stewards that Murray orders Steelworkers out on strike without giving them a chance to vote, and that he orders them back to work without giving them a chance to vote on the settlement. He also pointed out that major steel contracts have no paid holidays, no time-and-a-half for Saturday or double-time for Sunday, and are inferior to UE

Lest We Forget

GE is mainly responsible for the fact that GE workers have been without a contract since Apr. 1 and that it is necessary to have an election to clear IUE out of the picture.

Let's not forget this record:

IUE petitioned the NLRB in November for an election at GE plants without showing any membership. At Schenectady and most other GE plants it didn't have enough membership to justify an election.

About Dec. 1 GE withdrew its pension and insurance offer and suspended contract negotiations with UE, using the IUE claims as an excuse.

GE filed a NLRB election petition in December, coming to the rescue of IUE which couldn't have gotten on the ballot at the great majority of GE plants otherwise.

Both GE and IUE refused a consent election after UE proposed a speedy election on Carey's terms.

At the hearing GE asked for changes in some bargaining units and IUE in others. Both stalled proceedings.

GE terminated the UE contract Apr. 1.

Here's the record on the holding up of dues check-off money.

GE held up dues check-off money for November and December on the excuse of being "in doubt" about whom the money belonged to. GE turned the money over to Federal Court for a ruling.

In January UE produced new check-off cards for the overwhelming majority of workers at Schenectady and other plants. On the basis of GE's statement about being "in doubt," IUE got a court order restraining GE from paying check-off money to GE.

A series of GE and IUE maneuvers followed to keep the money tied up. UE offered to settle the matter either by turning the money back to the individual workers, or giving it at each plant to the union that wins the election at the plant.

1,500 UE plants, covering over 300,000 workers.

IUE Strong Throughout Industry
"We have taken on the bosses, the CIO officials and the reactionary politicians in this fight. They have failed to break our 3,000 mile front."

UE will do a "mopping up job" later in the scattered plants where IUE won NLRB elections, Matles said.

"We will reunite those plants with the rest of the union."

Workers in the electrical industry as a whole are overwhelmingly UE, he reported. IUE hasn't even made a dent in 1,200 of the

Sellout by Reuther Ends Chrysler Strike

After 100 days on the picket line, 89,000 Chrysler workers were sent back to work by UAW President Walter Reuther with a settlement that was offered them before they started the strike. There was no wage increase.

The Chrysler workers put up a magnificent fight, but they couldn't win, because Reuther and Philip Murray had already sold out their strike, before it began, by the Ford and Steel settlements.

Reuther settled the Chrysler strike for:

The Ford pension plan which Chrysler workers had turned down earlier.

An insurance and hospitalization plan which costs the company 3 cents an hour, according to UAW, and toward which each worker pays \$4.48 a month.

Three cents an hour for about 6,000 workers in Indiana to reduce a 9 cent differential between Indiana and Detroit plants. The other 83,000 got nothing on wages.

Pro-rata vacation payments between three and five years' service. Check-off of dues.

The pension plan provides \$100 month pensions, including Social Security, for workers retiring at 65 with 25 years' service. All future improvements in Social Security will go toward cutting down the company's payments, not to the workers. Chrysler refused to yield on the strikers' basic demand that it pay a guaranteed amount into the pension fund.

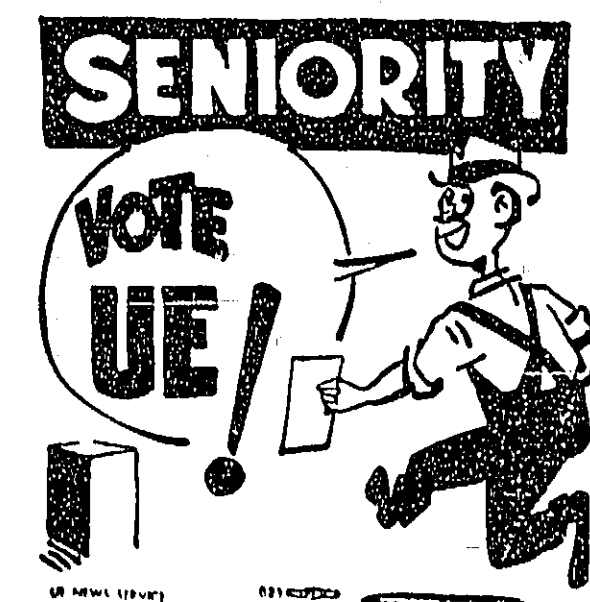
The Chrysler strikers didn't get relief payments or unemployment insurance while out. But of the \$8,000,000 collected by UAW in strike assessments levied on UAW members, only \$2,000,000 was turned over for the strikers. UAW has used its strike assessments to finance raids on UE.

Greiner Starts Fight; Then Runs to Police

Here are the facts about the assault charges made against each other by Mario Bagnato of Building-52, UE-301 Executive Board member, and Raymond Greiner, IUE agent.

Bagnato was coming to work through the subway gate Wednesday of last week, when Greiner began to abuse him from a sound truck.

Bagnato asked Greiner to stop.



Even Riesel Admits CIO Membership Drop

IUE leaflets are always boasting about how big and strong the CIO is. So the Carey boys must have been no end annoyed—the other day when their favorite newspaper columnist, Victor Riesel, let a little truth creep into his column on the matter of the huge drop in CIO membership.

Riesel has been gladly printing all the IUE smears against UE. He runs Frank Fiorillo's propaganda against UE-301 as facts and pals around with Fiorillo and the other Carey boys when he is in Schenectady.

But even Riesel, in his column in the Sunday Mirror Apr. 30, said:

"The AFL high command vacillates on merging with the CIO. Some executive council members say the CIO is down to 3,500,000 members and will have to come in to the AFL, which has close to 9,000,000 dues-payers."

The 3,500,000 figure is still way too high, for CIO has actually dropped to 3,000,000 or lower. The New York Times on Dec. 18, 1949, pointed out that for the year ended Sept. 30 the CIO received in per capita from its national unions and organizing committees \$3,540,815.

"With a tax rate of 8 cents per member per month, this figures out to about 3,688,350 members," the Times stated.

And that figure was back last Sept. 30 before the CIO started expelling UE and other unions.

Thereupon Greiner, who was followed by several IUE henchmen, attacked Bagnato physically. Bagnato defended himself.

Although Greiner is at least 20 pounds heavier than Bagnato, he went running to the police with a complaint after the fight.

Then Bagnato filed a counter-charge.

Reuther Policies Swell GM Profits

The New York Herald Tribune recently reported that officers and directors of General Motors Corporation would receive more than \$7,500,000 in cash and stock as bonuses over their salaries, for their work in 1949.

This completes an interesting example of the new CIO "labor statesmanship."

In 1948 Walter Reuther, president of the CIO Auto Workers, signed the two-year agreement with its up-and-down wage clause.

This contract brought GM a "productivity rate unequalled by any other company," according to GM. (And speed-up was terrific already before that in the auto industry).

This jumped GM's net profit for 1949 by almost one-half over 1948. This made it possible for GM to pay its officers fancy bonuses. For example, GM's president received a bonus of \$385,000 in addition to his salary of \$201,100.

And in return GM workers, members of CIO, found their pay at the end of the contract cut 2 cents below what it was at the start.

Also, Walter Reuther was given an honorary degree at Boston University, along with the president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

Whatever GE was able to do to GE workers with the help of IUE disruption, GM did several times over to GM workers, painlessly, with the approval of CIO's Reuther.

Any one still wonder why GE petitioned to get IUE-CIO on the NLRB ballot?

UE-301 on Television

Don't miss the UE-301 television programs on WRGB.

4:45 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, May 15.

4:45 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, May 22.

On the first program Robert Dunn, rank-and-file UE member pensioned off at Westinghouse Airbrake, Wilmerding, Pa., will speak on the record-making pension plan UE negotiated there.

Wins Television Set

Winner of the television set awarded at the UE Woman's Club dance Apr. 29 was Willard B. Hellwig of Building 273.

UE-301 Leaflets

From now until the NLRB election May 25 UE-301 will distribute leaflets frequently at the gates as a means of clearing up issues that may be in doubt in people's minds.

The union has been opposed to swamping people with leaflets and until recently limited itself to the weekly EU News and occasional leaflets.

But to spike IUE's last-minute campaign of confusion, UE feels the workers will welcome short leaflets giving them the facts on issues of importance to them. After the election, UE will return to its regular practice of using only the weekly union paper except on special occasions.

Executive Board members and shop stewards are distributing leaflets and the union paper, along with rank-and-file members.

Seems IUE Doesn't Know Pay Raise from Pay Cut

Does any welder, in Turbine or elsewhere, remember getting an 11-cents-an-hour cut in rate?

Of course not. No welder's rate was ever cut. There were a number of grievances processed by UE-301 for day work welders in the past two years. They resulted in raises for more than 90 men. Every disputed case was settled in favor of the man or men involved. Several cases brought back pay on starting rates. One of those who received back pay through UE action was John Marshall, the proud author of the piece about Turbine grievances in last Friday's "Imitation UE" leaflet.

Whoever got the sheet together accidentally let the cat out of the bag when he wrote "Tales from Turbine" over the piece. Fairy tales is what they were. All the tales told in the piece were just as far from the truth as the one about the welders.

Falsehood still is the IUE's only program.

Contract Improvements

UE's new contract with the Lincoln Machine Company, New York City, provides a general wage increase of 5 cents an hour; adds 15 cents to the hiring-in rates, and adds an eighth paid holiday and a Blue Cross plan paid for by the employer.

VOTE UE — for a Union Run by Its Membership!

To Be Run-off Vote at East Pittsburgh

A run-off election is assured at the big home East Pittsburgh Westinghouse plant.

The regional NLRB director found that 85 of the challenged ballots were cast by people not entitled to vote and that the remaining 62 ballots couldn't affect the outcome of the election.

He reported to the NLRB that neither UE nor IUE received a majority of the total votes in the election and recommended a run-off. The next step is for the Board to set the date.

UE has been urging an immediate run-off, but IUE has stalled.

The NLRB has certified UE as bargaining agent at 19 Westinghouse plants in 18 cities, including the South Philadelphia (Essington) plant which is the second largest in the Westinghouse system, with a normal working force of 7,500. It is the only turbine plant in Westinghouse. Certification at two other plants won by UE has been held up temporarily because of technicalities raised by IUE.

The national UE has been pressing Westinghouse by letter and telegram to reinstate the contract and open negotiations immediately on improvements. The company has stalled.

UE-Local 301 on Air

UE-301 Business Agent Leo Jandreau and former Vice-President William Hodges, retired from GE, were speakers this week on the first of a series of twice-a-day radio programs of the union on WPTR.

Chief Shop Steward James Cognetta and Executive Board Member Helen Quirini were on the next program and President William Kelly on the third.

The union also will have broadcasts Sundays, May 14 and May 21 on WSNY and will be on television on WRGB Mondays, May 15 and May 22.

Here are the schedules:

WPTR (1540 on dial)—

Every day except Saturdays and Sundays.

11:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

6:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

WSNY (1240 on dial)—

Sundays, May 14 and 21.

2:20 p.m. to 2:25 p.m.

7:50 p.m. to 7:55 p.m.

WRGB TELEVISION—

Mondays, May 15 and May 22.

4:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Carey Signs at Philco With No Wage Increase

James B. Carey has "negotiated" another of his famous Philco contracts without a wage increase. He personally handled the final negotiations Apr. 27 and the contract was rushed through a 15-minute membership meeting.

The Philco contract is the same as last year, with no wage increase whatsoever. This means there has been no wage raise since August, 1948, when the Philco workers received 7 cents.

The only changes in the Philco contract are three week's vacation pay for 15 years' service and the company payment of the difference in jury service. UE at RCA has three weeks vacation for 10 years and the same jury pay guarantee.

Nothing was reported on the mysterious pension agreement that Carey announced last December. Final details supposedly were being worked out during the past months. Up to the time of the meeting no one had yet received a pension.

Pensioners' Meeting

The UE-301 Pension Organization will meet at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the union hall. Robert Dunn, a Westinghouse Airbrake pensioner, will speak on the outstanding pension plan UE won there.

Even Big Business Admits UE Wage Gains

Status of 576 Union Contracts Renegotiated or Reopened for Wages

January 1, 1949, to December 31, 1949

Increases have predominated among the following unions: United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, formerly CIO, and the Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers, Printing Pressmen and Teamsters, all AFL unions. No wage increases have been the rule for the CIO Textile Workers and Oil Workers and for the AFL Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers.

JAMES J. BAMBRICK, JR.
Division of Personnel Administration
DOUGLAS K. LIPPMAN
Statistical Division

Above is reproduced part of the recent report of the National Industrial Conference Board, a research agency for Big Business. Even that outfit had to admit the outstanding record of UE.

UE Bargaining Program for GE

These are the demands which UE will place before the General Electric Company on May 26:

1. Immediate extension of the expired contract.
2. Negotiation on the changes proposed by the GE Conference Board of GE locals, including:

A. Shorter work week with 40 hours pay, to provide jobs, and also to solve the third shift problem.

B. 10-cents per hour raise over and above what is needed to maintain take-home on a shorter work week.

C. A pension plan guaranteeing \$125 a month, to increase as Social Security is improved.

D. Company-paid hospitali-

zation and insurance plan.

E. A separate wage adjustment to correct the skilled craft rates.

F. Removal of remaining discrimination in women's rates.

G. Improved grievance procedure.

H. Sunday double time to apply to continuous operations.

I. Union shop.

J. Anti-discrimination clause.

And improvement in various contract provisions, including stronger seniority and piece work guarantees, better provisions on holidays and vacations, promotion opportunities, transfers, and service breaks, and removal of geographical differentials.

IUE and Gazette

The information that the Gazette job shop was printing the local IUE literature must have hit a very touchy spot. Note the loud and abusive squeals in the IUE leaflet handed out last Friday.

A careful check shows that the Gazette job shop was indeed printing the IUE stuff. The IUE moved its printing elsewhere, in time to protest that the Gazette "does not" now do the Carey-Kriss-Fiorillo printing.

Eviction S.O.S.

A woman member of the union who is being evicted is in urgent need of a four or five room flat for herself and husband. Anyone who can help her is asked to contact the union office.

Jandreau at Fort Edward

Business Agent Leo Jandreau UE-301 addressed a membership meeting of UE Local 332 at the Fort Edward GE plant Tuesday night. The plant is solidly UE.

As The Women at GE See It

A Statement on the NLRB Election By the Women's Committee of UE

Like the men workers at GE, but even more so, women workers at GE have a clear choice on May 25. We can continue to go forward with UE, or we can go backward with the IUE-CIO.

UE has shown by its record that it practices as well as preaches the principle of equal rights — for the common good of men as well as women workers.

UE's fight for equal pay for equal work has brought us wage rates and earnings among the highest in industry, while major CIO unions were ignoring the issue. The differentials between our rates and those of men on similar jobs have been whittled down steadily. UE has kept up the fight, so that we can see the time soon when GE's traditional discrimination against women will be completely wiped out.

In doing this, UE has not just recognized that women in industry have the same needs and problems as men. It also has realized that removal of discrimination against women protects the jobs and working standards of the men.

UE Protects Our Piece Work Earnings

UE piece work guarantees have been of special importance to us — as our jobs are more subject to quick changes. Enforcement of these guarantees depends upon the kind of leadership given by UE. We need only look at the Syracuse GE plant to see the results of IUE leadership. The entrenched company union leaders there have allowed the company to play fast and loose with standards, so the women in Syracuse are on a treadmill trying to make earnings 30 to 50 cents an hour lower than ours.

We have received job protection in UE — through enforcement of seniority, over constant obstruction by supervision. We don't want to trade this for the CIO policy of letting the boss decide that a short service worker has more "ability and physical fitness" than a long service woman, and shall be kept on instead.

Our gains through UE have not just been handed to us. They have come because there are no second class citizens in UE — women have been involved directly in the leadership of the union and the handling of grievances.

UE Represents True American Democracy

Because most of us have been in industry for shorter years than the men, the outside forces controlling the IUE-CIO have concentrated much of their lying propaganda on us. They have come to us with their endless talk of "Communism". We are not fooled. We can tell real Americanism. For UE practices democracy, it practices equal rights, it does the job for the people. That is the expression of true American democracy.

5/15/50

VOTE UE — Don't Let GE Have Its Company Union!