

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

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REPORT OF CONFERENCE BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 18, 1960

Local 301 was represented at the G.E. Conference Board meeting in New York City, Tuesday, October 18, 1960. John Shambo, Joseph Mangino, Joseph Alois and Dave Gunn represented our Local for the purpose of protecting the integrity of #301, its elected leadership and its members.

As we expected, Carey, in two speeches that consumed nearly half of the 4½ hour meeting, deliberately condemned Local 301 and its officers by using false statements and innuendos, and generally using Local 301 as his alibi to justify the stupid and bad advice on the "suicide expedition" to which he gave leadership, which will go down in labor history as "Carey's Folly".

Mr. Carey, in an 11-page memo report, made admission that this strike was mainly a test of strength between the IUE and the General Electric Company with the company preparing for a long strike that would have made the 156 days strike in Westinghouse look insignificant. The report says, "It has become more apparent that Ralph Cordiner, G.E. Board Chairman, wanted this strike because he had made a commitment to big business in America to try to break the IUE and he was bound to carry out that pledge".

Leo Jandreau, member of the National Negotiations Committee, had advised Mr. Carey weeks before the strike was called that the G.E. wanted the strike and that he (Carey) did not have the issues or the organizational strength or the other economic factors that are necessary to lead a successful strike.

Based on Mr. Carey's recommendations at the Tuesday Conference Board meeting, the fact is confirmed that he is finally recognizing his weakness, because he approved that:

1. The Conference Board would authorize the Negotiations Committee in its judgement to conclude a strike.
2. If Negotiations Committee is unable to conclude a settlement by Oct. 23rd, another Conference Board meeting would be held on Oct. 26th.

Carey, during his tirade condemning Local 301, his scapegoat, reported again to the Conference Board that the Retraining Proposal was a plan to ruin seniority. Carey has been informed by the company before the Negotiations Committee that this proposal does not impair seniority and it will be an extension of seniority application. He was also informed that the Retraining Proposal could be negotiated into a Supplement similar to the present supplements that exist in all G.E. Locals.

Carey is looking for an "out"...he is admitting that his strike depended on Local 301, even though Jandreau continuously reminded Carey that the vote was 5 to 3 not to strike in Schenectady. Carey's reply was that the vote was crooked, company-dominated and there should not have been a secret ballot vote.

Carey's claims and lies caught up with him when his report claimed that Local 301 Officers tried to make a deal with Local 320 in Syracuse. John Stanley, Business Agent of Local 320, stood up at the meeting and pointed out this was not true and he wanted to be recorded to that effect.

(more on reverse side)

In the 11-page report given to the delegates attending the Tuesday Conference Board meeting, 8 of the pages involved deliberate lies and misrepresentation of facts involving Local 301, its Officers and Executive Board. Even though the purpose of the Conference Board meeting was to crucify Jandreau, Carey's report had to admit that the Local 301 Strike was the most effective in the Chain.

Carey made sure nothing was mentioned in the report about the following:

1. Nearly 50% of the G.E. production workers throughout the G.E. Chain were not on strike.
2. The I.U.D., solid front of other AFL-CIO Unions, turned out to be not so solid insofar as strike was concerned.
3. That he spent thousands of dollars of IUE funds transporting staff and people from other communities into Schenectady to force a strike.
4. Locals that voted for strike and could not afford to send delegates to the Sept. 30th meeting...regardless of their size, their expenses were paid out of National funds in order for them to be present on the vote.
5. That he was informed that Schenectady had a 5 to 3 No Strike Vote and the reason we decided to go on strike on Oct. 6th, was because G.E. refused to offer a truce to all G.E. Locals, keeping the terms of the Agreement intact while negotiations continued.
6. He will not tell you that he had such a proposal on Oct. 7th, and turned it down, which was confirmed in writing on Oct. 10th, which he denies, and which again was confirmed before representatives of the U.S. Govt. on Oct. 14th.
7. He makes sure that he does not repeat what he said long before the strike...that "He owes G.E. a Strike".
8. He does not report, nor do the other members of the Negotiations Committee dare to report, his personal actions, his obscene language, his complete monopoly of the limited time of the bargaining sessions on matters unrelated to the issues to be discussed.

If only one page of his report to the Conference Board were given to the 8 points listed above, the Conference Board would certainly question his value, not only to the GE-IUE collective bargaining, but to the IUE as a Union.

Well, Mr. Carey has had his way so far...the box score will show sacrifice and undue hardship for many thousands of G.E. workers, court actions, hospitalized pickets and discharges. FOR WHAT? Only to satisfy the egotistical desires of a little man who would be God.

He claims publicly to the following:

1. His first strike was at a time when he was 7 years old. He refused to write...he wanted to print, and he still claims he prints. Won Strike!
2. One of his relatives first introduced a S.U.B. Plan back in 1837.
3. One of his ancestors was a Pirate on the high seas and made a good living from "Pirateering"!
4. Had some influence with the recent appointment of Pope John.
5. He is the Dean of the Labor Movement.
6. He modeled a suit, using the meeting room in a Federal Building as a dressing room, in front of a number of amazed and astonished observers.
7. Self-appointed to replace U.S. Conciliators one day by consuming considerable valuable time acting their part in front of Union and Company Negotiators. (Last day before Conf. Bd. voted strike)

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REPORT OF CONFERENCE BOARD MEETING (Cont'd)

There were many more incidents too numerous to mention during the course of these meetings which were convened for the purpose of trying to reach a contract settlement with G.E.

He has announced a new Negotiations Committee to the Conference Board for the purpose of notifying them that Jandreau had been removed. This is an accomplishment for Mr. Carey...a more important change would have been in order, which would have improved the quality of the committee and would at least give the Negotiations Committee a chance to carry out their responsibilities and possibly reach an agreement with the company, and that would be the removal of Mr. Carey.

Mr. Carey will soon forget the G.E. Strike after it is over...he will not suffer as a result of its scars and lost wages to thousands of G.E. workers. His \$490.00 per week wages, \$25,500 per year plus generous expenses, will soften any memory he may have had, because his wages continued while your wages and the wages of your officers stopped during the days of the strike.

MEMBERSHIP GIVES UNANIMOUS SUPPORT TO LOCAL 301 ACTION

Local 301 members at the regular October Membership Meetings filled the huge IUE Auditorium with approximately 6,000, to overflowing capacity, last Monday at the afternoon and evening meetings, to back their leaders unanimously in the action taken over the past weekend.

On Wednesday, October 12th, at a mass membership meeting, one of the largest in the history of #301 with over 5,000 present, the members overwhelmingly approved a resolution giving the Officers and Executive Board the authority to continue or terminate the strike providing that their actions were in the best interest of the membership.

On Saturday, October 15th, the Executive Board met in an emergency session and after long deliberation voted unanimously by roll call vote to suspend the strike on Monday, Oct. 17th, and accept the Truce Agreement which the G.E. offered on a nation-wide basis.

In spite of the fact that the International IUE brought "imported" pickets into Schenectady in an effort to prevent our people from going to work on Monday morning, and in spite of the fact that the IUE representatives, Callahan and Fiorillo and other imported agents, carried on "smear campaigns" on Radio and TV over the weekend and in spite of the fact they insisted on attending our meetings to cause confusion even though they were not invited, John Shambo and the membership of Local 301 showed them the courtesy of allowing John Sullivan, International IUE Representative, to speak at both meetings on behalf of the IUE. In addition, Shambo urged the membership to allow Sullivan to deliver his speech without interruption.

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Furthermore, Mr. Sullivan was allowed to take the platform and address the membership meeting, a courtesy which was not extended to our leaders when they appeared before the G.E. Conference Board to make a report. The Conference Board on September 30th forced them to speak from the rear of the large room without even the aid of a microphone.

Leo Jandreau and John Shambo then followed in that order to give a detailed explanation of events leading up to and including the action which was finally taken by the Executive Board. Every member was allowed to get up and voice his opinion and to ask questions. After everyone had his opportunity to have his say on the matter, the membership at both meetings voted unanimously to approve the action taken by the leadership of Local 301 in accepting the truce offer.

Another motion was made and passed unanimously expressing their confidence in the leadership of the local union.

TURBINE GRIEVANCE SETTLED

On Monday, Oct. 17th, the first day back at work since the strike which began on Oct. 6th, a question of the correct rate of pay on a job assignment in Turbine became an issue between the company and the union.

The company at first refused to pay the proper rate on a job which would have meant a loss of pay to the people involved. Then a meeting was set up with management and Union Coordinator Vitallo and Board Members Podell and Brothers. After a discussion with the company representatives, it was agreed by all that proper rate should be paid. This proves that #301 is back in full swing and grievance procedure as provided in Truce Agree. is working same as it was prior to termination of Contract on Oct. 1st, 1960.