

IUE-CIO CONFERENCE ADOPTS PROGRAM

A five-point economic program for this summer's negotiations was adopted at a meeting of the IUE-CIO GE Conference Board in New York May 12.

A Negotiating Committee elected at the meeting has been delegated the task of studying the IUE-CIO contract in order to make contract improvements, and discussion of the committee's recommendations will be held at the next Conference Board.

The five economic demands are as follows:

(1) Reinstatement of the profit-sharing plan which would have brought six cents an hour to GE workers last year.

(2) Assumption by the company of the full cost of the pension plan which will mean two per cent more in take home pay for GE workers.

(3) Continuation of a cost-of-living escalator clause to protect the workers against future increases in living costs.

(4) An employment security fund which will provide severance pay if a worker leaves GE before he is entitled to a pension, and which will protect workers during temporary lay-offs due to the changeover from defense to non-defense work, and vice-versa.

(5) A union shop.

The matter of a straight wage increase next September will be considered at a later Conference Board Meeting.

The Conference Board again went on record that IUE-CIO and its GE locals will make every effort to see that all GE workers receive the nine cents. All IUE-CIO workers in GE, 65,000 of them, have already received the increase with retroactive pay. Those under UE contract, under contract of another union, or with no contract, have not yet received the increase. Before the increase is granted to these other workers, their case must be presented before the new Wage Stabilization Board in Washington, since the nine cents constitutes more than a 10 per cent increase in one year.

IUE-CIO also pledged itself to help all GE workers to make the same gains IUE-CIO members are making from GE in other matters, and in future negotiations.

The way is now open for those GE workers under UE contract to revolt against their Communist-dominated and ineffective leadership and to get the benefits of affiliation with IUE-CIO.

IUE-CIO can file a petition for an election any time after May 25, 1951, a year from the last election.

The IUE-CIO and its GE locals issue this invitation to all those who are unorganized, or disorganized in UE: Join the CIO, join IUE-CIO. In our unity we will have strength.

SHOP TALK

The tinsmiths over in Building 273 wanted a raise, and went to the UE about it. The UE business agent said he would take it up in 41, and the tinsmiths demanded to have a committee present at the meeting. This is a very unusual procedure for UE, even though it is common practice in most unions, but the business agent gave in, and a committee of the workers attended the meeting. The company made an offer of a five-cent an hour raise, but there was a catch to it. Management wanted the tinsmiths to do their own welding. This would have meant more work for the tinsmiths, and would have been cutting the welders out of a job. The UE business agent instructed the tinsmiths to accept the offer, but the tinsmiths were better union men than the business agent. They refused, outright, and walked out of the meeting.

The delegates who attended the scab UE-GE Conference Board meeting in Erie appropriately enough were driven there by a scab bus driver in a scab bus. Lewis H. Coager, Building 16, a strong UE supporter, drives a bus in his spare time. He drove a bus to Erie for UE. He drives for the Arnold Wade Bus Co., a notorious non-union outfit. Birds of a feather fly together.

UE is still trying to stop IUE-CIO from distributing leaflets at plant gates. Not long ago, Wally Leonard, Building 273, stopped to help with the IUE-CIO distribution. When he got into work, a certain UE stooge threatened to cause him to lose his job because of the distribution. This UE stooge attempted to get a petition signed to have Wally fired but that wasn't very successful; neither were his efforts to intimidate Wally. Some of the UE stooges have high ideas of their own importance, but if an individual stands up for his own rights, the UE stooges usually back down to normal right away.

Our sincere apologies to Arthur Owens. We reported him last week as a UE steward on the second shift, Building 273, but that was a typographical error. What we meant to say is that Arthur Owens is a UE stooge!

UE got so excited about the IUE-CIO expose of a Peace Rally held in the UE hall in Welland, Ontario, Canada, that they put out a special handbill and devoted a full page of Electrical Union News to calling IUE-CIO leaders liars. UE reprinted the handbill from Canada exactly, and some GE workers got so confused that they thought UE was advertising this peace rally up North, hoping a group from Schenectady would go.

AN OPEN LETTER TO UE BOARD MEMBER SID FRIEDLANDER

I have been told that you and your stooges are calling me a "union-buster," just as you and Jandreau have called all those who refuse to follow the Communist line.

Let me give you some facts. I have been a union man since 1908 and was in the UE long before you and your gang made a Communist dump-hole out of it.

I know you and your stooges will tear up these leaflets, as you do all others, because you don't want the workers to know the truth. But there are some facts I want to give, and no matter how many you destroy, there will always be a few that got to the hands of the people.

Two years ago I was in Germany, close to the Iron Curtain, and I talked with some Poles and East Germans who were lucky to escape from the Communist "Paradise."

In this "Paradise," if a man has two pairs of pants, he is called a "Kapitaliste," and he gets a bullet in his neck. Your wife is not your own under Communist rule, for the Comisar comes first. I suppose you like that!

Under Communism everyone has to keep his mouth shut, and no-one can dare criticize the government. Anyone who complains is just put in a slave labor camp, never to be heard from again.

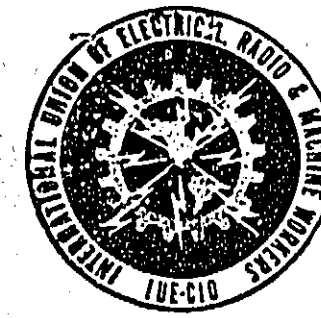
As I very seldom missed a union meeting, I remember very well hearing you and Jandreau and the rest of your gang screaming against the Marshall Plan, because it was giving help to the poor Poles and Germans who were lucky enough not to have been taken by Russian Communism. The Communist Party also opposes the Marshall Plan.

In our section, you and your stooges pull one sit-down after another, not to make gains for the workers, but so that the Communist Party will have a better chance to introduce Stalin's "Paradise" into the United States. The last sit-down you pulled in this section was called by you because you wanted to get rid of a good American worker, LaRocco, from the Third Shift in Building 19.

And why did you want to get rid of him? Because he refuses to support the UE, as does his whole gang.

But your days of control are numbered. The workers realize what you are, and as soon as we have an election, we will throw off the yoke of UE and return to the CIO.

(Signed) A.L. Dorries, Bldg. 15 P. S. Who is paying the stooges for running around and tearing up IUE-CIO literature? Does that lost time come out of the workers' dues money too?



IUE-CIO NEWS

"IN UNION
THERE IS
STRENGTH"

Volume 1 No. 9

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UE SELLS OUT TOOL GRINDERS IN 273

UE AND COMPANY IN COLLUSION AGAINST WORKERS IN PLANT

Last week there came to light one of the most vicious attacks a union has ever made on a group of workers with a legitimate grievance.

On Tuesday, May 15, some 120 men in the Tool Grinding Department in 273 got together to present a grievance to management asking for an increase in rates. All but four of the men signed a group grievance, and elected four representatives to present their case to the company.

Management immediately refused to negotiate with the men, and claimed that they could negotiate only with UE on group grievances.

But these workers had found out what UE would do to their case. They had presented the same grievance through UE less than six months ago, and UE did nothing for them. When the company refused, UE let the grievance drop, the way any good company union would do.

This time, the men decided they would take matters into their own hands. They sat down and refused to work until management negotiated the grievance with their representatives.

When every man in the department sat down, UE started to do its dirty work. Bill Kelly, UE's excuse for a union president, issued a statement to the press in which he said the sitdown was an unauthorized wildcat strike. In the meantime, UE Board Member Roy Lash was working right with the company in their effort to break the unity of these men.

But neither the company nor the UE had success in their efforts to break the spirit of the men. The top rate in the Tool Grinding Department of 273 is \$1.665 per hour. For the type of work they do, these men are grossly underpaid.

The men know this only too well, and they were, and are, determined to improve this condition.

But on Friday, the company played its trump card. Harold Barber, one of the four representatives elected by the men, had his badge taken from him by management. Right before this happened, Barber presented management with a copy of an unfair labor practice charge he had filed against the company on behalf of the men that very day. But management suspended him indefinitely anyway, hoping that such action would scare the other men into submission.

When the men in the department remained firm, management agreed to rehire Barber, on the condition that the department return to work.

On Tuesday, May 22, the tool grinders in 273 did return to work, in order to protect the job of one of their fellow workers.

The grievance has not been settled. UE can't win a just increase for these men, and the company refuses to bargain with the men themselves, and uses UE as its excuse. The men will have to wait until the unfair labor practices charge, in which they request the NLRB to force the company to bargain with them, is heard.

But the case has pointed out the glaring truth that UE is not a trade union, interested in improving the welfare of its members, but is a political machine as full of corruption and stunidity as any political machine has ever been.

There is one way to get grievances settled, and to win gains from management. That is by returning to a real, honest trade union--by returning to CIO.

UE SELLS OUT TO GE IN CANADA

The UE Canadian News for Friday, May 4, 1951, carries a front-page story on the latest UE sellout to the General Electric Co.

Canadian GE workers under UE received their first increase since 1948. The increase amounted to 17 cents an hour for men, and 14 to 15 cents an hour for women. The increase establishes a new starting rate of \$1.22 per hour for men, and \$1.02 an hour for women. These figures are quoted directly from the Canadian UE News.

The UE signed a two-year agreement with Canadian GE, which provides for an improvement factor of three cents to be added to all rates at the end of one year.

UE also signed a cost of living agreement with Canadian GE. It is inferior to any cost of living clause agreed to by any CIO union. It provides for a one-cent increase every time the cost of living goes up 1.3.

The IUE-CIO cost of living clause with GE provided for an increase if the cost of living rose, but did not allow for a decrease.

CIO contracts provide for one-cent increases every time the cost of living goes up 1.14, which means CIO members under escalator clauses will receive more money from cost of living increases than Canadian GE workers under UE will get.

No CIO union has ever given up straight wage increases for an escalator clause, but this is just what UE did in Canada.

The way UE has discriminated against women in Canada is a disgrace to any organization that calls itself a union. UE in Schenectady has sold the women out, but not to the extent that UE in Canada has allowed discrimination. By UE's own admission, women make 20 cents an hour less than men no matter what jobs they work on.

IUE-CIO WINS TWO

Two important elections were won by IUE-CIO last week.

By a vote of 77 to 27, IUE-CIO won an NLRB election at the Waterford, N. Y. GE plant last Wednesday. UE attempted to get just ten cards signed in an effort to get on the ballot in Waterford, but weren't even successful in that. Then UE campaigned for a no union vote, just as the company did.

On the same day, IUE-CIO won an outstanding victory at the Emerson Radio Plant in New Jersey. Workers at this plant had been members of UE Local 430, the home local of James Matles, and Ruth Young Jandreau, and a local that had a reputation as being led by the most vicious UE Communists.

Among the well-known Communists who led the campaign for UE was Charlie Rivers, a man who is known in this

area for his Communist activities.

The Daily Worker of May 17, 1951, reported that IUE-CIO had won by a score of 1211 for IUE-CIO, and 739 for UE. The Communist newspaper said the IUE-CIO won through "a storm of red-baiting." We are sure UE will follow the Party-line and report the same thing.

SHOP TALK

Dom Petucci, UE steward in 69-1, is up to the typical UE trick of running to the company for help. Not long ago, Petucci signed a new member during working hours. Recently this new member wised up to UE's unethical ways, and decided to quit UE. He got hold of a revocation slip, and Petucci saw him with it. Petucci immediately ran to management and accused this member of distributing revocation slips on company time. The result was that after the usual fanfare by some of the UE goons, it was discovered that there was no foundation to the complaint. But Petucci wasn't finished. He tried to frame the same member by turning him in for endangering the safety of surrounding employees by improper use of an air hose. An investigation proved there was nothing to this story, either. Keep trying, Petucci, you're doing a fine job-of knifing your fellow workers in the back!

The papers have carried little or no news about the UE-GE Conference Board meeting in Erie, and there seems to be some confusion among those who went. They don't agree on what happened. Fortunately, IUE-CIO was able to get the story by long distance telephone from a man who was present during the whole meeting. IUE-CIO had the honor of presenting the only true and complete story on what happened in Erie.

UE raised an awful lot of fuss about IUE-CIO's expose on the collusion between the Communist Party and UE in Canada. We've challenged UE to sue if we have lied or forged that now famous pamphlet. But UE isn't doing that. The reason is that UE knows full well that the Welland Peace Council did hold a rally in the UE hall in Welland. And the UE in Welland admitted that fact publicly.

It was good of the UE business agent to print his non-Communist affidavit in the Electrical Union News. It brought to our minds the now famous story about Ben Gold, president of the Fur and Leather Workers Union, which was expelled from CIO along with UE. Ben Gold has been an admitted Communist for many years. He's admitted it to the press, to his membership, and to anyone else who was interested. When the time came for Ben Gold to sign the non-

Communist affidavit, he issued a statement to the press saying he was resigning from the Communist Party in order to sign the affidavit, but he made it clear that his resignation did not change his thinking one bit. Leo Jandreau probably did the same thing!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The UE has a new line as foolish as anything it ever put out. UE says, "Don't join IUE-CIO, because you'll lose your independence."

Let me tell you a little about that. Years ago we had a small electrical union here. It was independent, but it was also small and weak. It could do nothing, and we could do nothing through it.

Then the CIO came into being. When Jandreau came in to talk for the UE, he stressed the idea of unity of all workers in CIO. He said that's how we would have strength.

The workers in Schenectady joined UE, so that they could be a part of the great family of CIO. And through CIO we had much more strength than we ever had before, or have had since. But UE, while hiding behind the good name of CIO, was making a cesspool of Communist ideas out of our union.

Finally, the CIO had to expel UE because it was hopelessly controlled by Communists. Immediately the large majority of UE members went right back into CIO by joining the IUE.

What is left of the UE is weak, and small, just like the old independent union we had--but it is not independent.

UE depends on IUE-CIO to win wage increases and other gains.

UE depends on the Communist Party for orders.

UE depends on contributions to send delegates to meetings.

There is no democracy in UE. Only delegates to conventions vote for international officers--and there is no democracy in UE conventions. In local elections, members vote a real Russian ballot. There is just one name on the ballot for the important offices. Members are denied the right to vote on important issues like the nine-cent increase until after negotiations are completed.

This is just a sample of the kind of independence workers have in UE. Regardless of what you may read in the next UE dope sheet, and regardless of what UE's paid stooges have to say this is the true story of the UE as lived it. That is why I support IUE-CIO, and that is why I urge all other GE workers to sign their cards for an NLRB election, and come back to the CIO.

(signed) Al Dorries
Building 15
Second Shift

IUE CIO ATOMIC WORKERS

IUE-CIO Conference Adopts Program

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Results of Spring Raffle Drawing, Friday May 18, 1951
1st Prize-Man's Benrus Watch Set, won by Sam Janinski-Machine Shop.
2nd Prize-Woman's Benrus Watch Set, Won by W. Budka
1335 Van Cortland St.
Schenectady, N.Y.
3rd Prize-Ship Electric Clock won by Larry Fleming, Welding Shop.
4th Prize-Rhinestone Necklace Set, won by Fronch Le Point, P.P.A.

Don't forget you have until June 5th on the membership drive contest. The member signing up the most new members during this drive will receive an award of a \$25.00 War Bond, which will be presented at the regular membership meeting of June 5, 1951.

The Davis Panel has arranged a meeting for Thursday, June 7th, at 9:30 A.M. in the hotel Van Curler. The Panel will also be available on Friday June 8th, if the business on hand is not completed on Thursday. This meeting is to settle the following issues:

1. Change in Working hours.
2. Automatic Progression schedule.
3. Pay increase for some of the employcos, due to nature of work.
4. Pay for the Labor Day Holiday, Sept. 4, 1950, for those whose payment is now in controversy.