

UE in Trouble Members Revolt

With the recent NLRB election victories in Holland, Michigan, Oakland, California, and San Jose, California, for the IUE-CIO, UE finds itself facing a growing demand by its members in GE shops for a solution to the present economic sacrifice they are obliged to make, in lieu of the contract negotiations, that have bogged down since August 15, and no settlement in sight.

The 15,000 GE workers still left in UE are demanding the advantages provided for in the new contract, covering Wages, Pensions, and Insurance, Overtime Premium Holiday, death in family, payments and many other advantages.

An electrician who receives 2.36 an hour in one of the UE plants pointed out that the settlement made by IUE-CIO would give him a rate of 2.48; he is taking a loss of 12c an hour or 4.80 per week. He went on to say that he has lost 8 weeks of increases since August 15 amounting to \$38.40 and the outlook for settlement is a complete blank.

The UE has real internal problems with District and National leadership, some factions are advocating programmatic unity with the labor movement, while others are suggesting organic unity.

The leadership has been spending their time shopping for some deals with Labor Unions in CIO and AFL without any success.

In the meantime, the UE-GE contract negotiations are dormant at the expense of the membership.

The hopes for UE on unity with the AFL or CIO were chilled last week in a statement made by the President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL and J. Carey speaking for the CIO to the effect, "It is ridiculous for anyone to consider that the UE as an organization could ever find a haven with us."

There is not any excuse that UE leadership can use to condone their actions. They are too small to bargain effectively with large companies and they are disliked in the labor movement to receive any assistance and support.

Make a note ...
**To
Vote!**

NEW YORK STATE CIO COUNCIL REVIEWS AMENDMENTS UP FOR VOTE

The Executive Board of the New York State CIO Council at a meeting held on October 26, 1955, at the Commodore Hotel in New York City declared its support to some Amendments and Proposition No. 1, while Amendments Nos. 9 and 10 have been left open without any decision whatever. IUE Local 301 recommends "no" on No. 7.

(1) AMENDMENT #1 authorizing the State to borrow up to \$750 million to go into a Highway Construction Bond Fund earmarked construction and improvement of State highways.

This Amendment is recommended because (1) our present road system is outmoded and dangerous; (2) only immediate expenditures of sums far greater than available from current resources can provide the large-scale modernization required; (3) under laws passed by the 1955 Legislature and effective if the proposed amendment is approved, the entire tax increase will go into the Highway Construction Bond Fund and any surplus must also be used only for highways.

(2) AMENDMENT #2 providing that state subsidies to public housing and slum clearance be increased from \$25 million to not more than \$34 million in any one year.

This Amendment means continued public housing subsidies.

(3) AMENDMENT #3 permitting absentee voting for qualified voters who are unable to go to the polls because of illness or physical disability.

This Amendment increases voter participation.

(4) AMENDMENT #4 permitting the Legislature to assign responsibility for assessment and taxation of real estate to the State Comptroller.

This Amendment means more efficient government.

(5) AMENDMENT #5 excluding from debt limit of any municipality any indebtedness contracted for the collection or disposal of sewage.

This Amendment will serve the needs for a large scale construction of sewage disposal plans that cannot be accommodated within the debt limit.

(6) AMENDMENT #6 permitting any county, city or village to join other municipalities in order to provide facilities for the disposal of sewage and to contract for this purpose joint in indebtedness excluded from the debt limit.

This Amendment would help municipalities meet their financial needs.

(7) AMENDMENT #7 authorizing construction of the Panther Mountain Reservoir.

NOTE: The Officers, Executive Board and Membership of IUE Local 301 are on record as opposing this Amendment which would turn over the people's forest preserve to the power people under the guise of flood control. *Vote NO on this Amendment.*

(8) AMENDMENT #8 forbidding judges in counties over 120,000 population to hold any other public office while serving on the bench.

This Amendment preserves an impartial judiciary.

(9) PROPOSITION #1 allowing the use of \$50 million from previously authorized State housing bonds for loans to non-profit or limited-profit housing corporations.

This Proposition means more housing for the middle-income group.

On the other hand, on the advice of our lawyers, we left open and did not take any position on the following amendments:

a) AMENDMENT NO. 9 that permits the governor to appoint for 90 days a temporary judge in place of a county court judge outside New York City who is temporarily ill or incapacitated.

b) AMENDMENT NO. 10 that permits the governor to appoint for 90 days a temporary judge in place of an ill or incapacitated judge of the Supreme Court or judge of the following New York City courts: General Sessions, County Courts and City Court.

Opponents believe these amendments are unnecessary and somewhat dangerous. They would add more high salaries to the taxpayer's burden, create possibilities for abuses, and be of little help in easing court calendar jams.

Management Confirms Seniority Supplement

About two weeks ago the plant was buzzing with a story that the Seniority Supplement had been terminated.

The reason for this was that a local company lawyer had thought that there might be some technical question as to whether the Seniority Supplement had been terminated by virtue of the notice the Union had sent to the General Electric Company to the effect that if the IUE-CIO had not reached a satisfactory agreement by September 15, 1955, the National Contract would terminate. The fact was that an agreement was reached on August 15, 1955; therefore, the National Agreement was extended. The local Supplement provided in its termination provision that it would run concurrently with the National Agreement.

The officers of Local 301 held a meeting with representatives of management last week whereby management agreed that they were ill-advised. Also, a letter will be given to the Union to this effect confirming that the Seniority Supplement providing seniority protection will be in effect for the life of the National Agreement.

IUE Local 301 Members Political Candidates

Henry J. Burke, a member of IUE Local 301, is the Republican candidate for reelection as 9th Ward Supervisor.

He is Chairman of the Purchasing and Civil Defense Committees and a member of the Highway and Engineering and Welfare Committee.

Bro. Burke resides at 302 Main Ave., Schenectady, with his wife and 3 children.

Other Local 301 members running for political office in next week's election are: Joseph Mangino, Democratic and Liberal Candidate for Supervisor, 2nd Ward; Lawrence F. Schilling, Republican Nominee for reelection for Supervisor, 10th Ward; and Frank D'Amico, Republican Candidate for Councilman, Town of Rotterdam.

**EXECUTIVE
BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14th
7:30 p.m.
UNION HEADQUARTERS
121 Erie Blvd.**

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE CIO

Vol. 2 — No. 10

The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y.

November 18, 1955

W Fraud Explodes — a Pay Cut!

Call For GE Workers' Financial Aid

Strike Enters Fifth Week With 36 Major Westinghouse Plants Closed Tight; Offer Far Below GE Contract

The blatant hypocrisy and fraud of Westinghouse management's contract offer — and strike-breaking propaganda across the country — exploded into the clear light of day last week during IUE-CIO negotiations with management in Pittsburgh. The explosion came as President Carey challenged Westinghouse's national propaganda claims — in newspaper ads, over radio and TV — that the corporation's offer was the equal of the General Electric settlement. Here is the discussion:

"President Carey — You have said the GE and Westinghouse offers are comparable. Are they?"

"Clark Frame (Manager of Labor Relations) — The settlements are comparable. The benefits are not."

"President Carey — Are you willing to offer us the benefits provided by GE?"

"Frame — You have our offer. We might consider it (giving the GE offer) only if you would consider taking a substantial wage cut."

Here, then, for the first time was

management's naked, shameless admission that it had been perpetrating a flagrant fraud on Westinghouse employees and on the public in claiming that the Westinghouse offer is "equal in value" to the contract IUE-CIO won from General Electric in August.

The clear fact of the matter is — as IUE-CIO repeatedly pointed out — that in wages, insurance, pensions and in many other contractual areas the Westinghouse offer falls far below the standards of the GE settlement. The first year value of the Westinghouse package offer, for example, is more than 7c-an-hour below the GE level.

But the Westinghouse fraud was by no means confined to the incredible idea that Westinghouse workers take a wage cut in exchange for GE-type contract. Management negotiators, persisted in their position — in outright violation of the present two-year contract — that Westinghouse workers would not be given even a quarter-of-a-cent pay hike if they did not surrender to a five-year agreement.

On the question of time studies — the second subject negotiable under the reopener — management was equally blind and viciously stubborn. On this subject, in fact, it was self-

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Company Balked On Injunctions

Desperate Westinghouse management has rushed to the courts in seven strike-bound localities in frantic attempts to obtain strike-breaking injunctions.

In one instance, Newark, O., the court, in effect, told Westinghouse to go fly a kite.

In two other cases, the injunction applications backfired.

In only two cities did Westinghouse succeed in getting injunctions that applied only against the IUE-CIO and neither one of these prohibited picketing. One injunction did limit picketing, but in no instance did Westinghouse get the

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Monday's Meeting to Pick Election Committee

The members present at this Monday's membership meeting, November 21, will elect 25 to act as an Election Committee.

This Election Committee will be in charge of the local elections and they will determine, in accordance with the Local's Constitution, the eligibility of nominees and the members voting.

The Committee will make a written report to the membership at the January meeting.

Strike Fund Stamps Available From Shop Stewards

We are being called upon to support the Westinghouse strikers, members of the IUE-CIO who have been on strike since October 16. The 55,000 members are striking over the following issues:

1. The Westinghouse contract with our Union runs until October 1956, and provides for negotiations between the Company and the Union on wages only as of September 15, 1955. The Company insists on breaking this agreement and negotiating a new one.
2. The Company refuses to make a wage offer unless the Union signs a new contract.
3. The Company insists on the right to time study day workers and establish production quotas.
4. Even in the Company's proposition for a new contract the offer falls far short of the settlement made in the General Electric agreement. The value of the G.E. settlement for the 1st year is 18-3/4c per hour. The value of the Westinghouse offer is 11c for the first year.

The above are issues that affect

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**NEW CONTRACTS
Available at Union Office
For Shop Stewards**

Executive Board Of CIO Backs W

Full support of the National CIO and its affiliated international unions was pledged to IUE-CIO Westinghouse strikers at a meeting of the CIO Executive Board in Detroit on Nov. 2.

By unanimous action the CIO's top governing body charged Westinghouse with "repeated contract violations" and with perpetuating the dispute "by refusing to negotiate in good faith or to make any substantial concessions on the IUE-CIO's basic contract demands."

Therefore, the resolution concluded, "the National CIO and the individual affiliates pledge themselves wholeheartedly to extend to the IUE-CIO Westinghouse strikers whatever moral, organizational

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WESTINGHOUSE STRIKE . . .

HERE'S THE SCORE, LOCAL BY LOCAL

Local 111, Philadelphia, Pa.

Picketing solid and effective. Salaried workers and supervisors going in. Nothing coming out. Some meters are being shipped out of public warehouse. Teamsters will co-operate in refusing to move struck work. Good relations with police because of effective CIO organization and strong PAC. Food orders being distributed. Company notified local that insurance will be discontinued end of November. Local stopping deliveries to cafeteria.

Local 130, Baltimore, Md.

Strike solid. Morale high. Helping hardship cases. Making plant gate collections. Aid from CIO Shipbuilders, Local 24 at Bethlehem Steel. Other CIO locals and AFL pledging support. No company letter yet cutting off insurance.

Locals 202 and 219, Springfield, Mass.

Some salaried workers contributing to local strike fund. Salaried workers not going in at 219. Locals making full use of community services, welfare departments co-operating. Merchants making contributions. City Council has voted to use strikers on storm damage projects and city jobs. Many members employed on emergency crews. Have received CIO and AFL support. 202 put on successful 15-minute TV show explaining issues.

Local 239, Bridgeport, Conn.

Shop down tight. Morale high. Hardship cases being taken care of. Many members working part time elsewhere.

Locals 1581 and 315, Buffalo, N. Y.

Both plants down solid. Morale high. Salaried people contributed \$370 at gate collection. Contributions coming from other CIO locals. Food vouchers being given out and emergency fuel rations. Foremen calling homes, telling members lies about negotiation progress. Members paying no attention. Company spending more than \$400 a day for spot broadcasts on two local radio

stations. President and chief steward of 315 allowed to enter plant to make sure no one is doing members' work.

Locals 401 and 491 (salaried), Metuchen, N. J.

Commissary headquarters in picnic grove. Strike may be no picnic but members are solid in support. Picketing peaceful. Surplus food program in works. Members kept well informed by mailings from local and international. Motorcades in nearby shopping centers putting across IUE-CIO stand and spiking Westinghouse lines.

Locals 410, 412, Bloomfield and Belleville, N. J.

Strike solid. Only supervisors entering. Food vouchers being distributed. Nearby supermarket giving 8 per cent discount. CIO Rubber workers taking up strike collection. (Locals 239, 297).

Local 426, Newark, N. J.

Down tight. Surplus food distribution. Local also purchased tons of food. Basket for each striker includes chicken, canned goods, potatoes and other staples, fruit, etc. Sending out daily bulletins to membership featuring frame statement that "settlement is same as GE, benefits not. Would offer same if Westinghouse employees took cut in pay." Salaried not going in. No notification so far of company's intent to stop insurance. Through arrangement with CIO Brewery Workers only Westinghouse strikers to work temporary jobs at Balantyne Brewery. Many now employed there at \$2.62 per hour. CIO Council has arranged for other strikers to work at polls.

Local 449, Trenton, N. J.

Picketing peaceful and quiet. So is plant. Distributed food orders. Paying some utility bills, also necessary medication. Local welfare agencies cooperative. Have sent letters to all CIO locals in area asking support. Distribute leaflets to public.

Local 456, Jersey City, N. J.

No one getting in. Few supervisors and maintenance sleeping in plant. Keeping management out—including vice president. Currently stalling off injunction. Hearing set for last Monday. Welfare committee paying some food bills, prescriptions. Start giving out food vouchers. CIO Council has pledged support. Also expect aid from AFL in town.

Local 601, E. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Strike solid. Injunctions still in force. Injunction at Trafford changed to increase number of pickets allowed. Surplus food distributed in Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties. Picketing being 'rationed' by cards.

Local 617, Sharon, Pa.

Out solid. Salaried and supervisors allowed to enter since injunction. More than 2000 families serviced with surplus food—total of 7200 men, women and children. Tons of dry milk, rice, beans, butter, cheese, shortening given out. Food vouchers also given out. Previous to injunction no one got to plant. Salaried group would not go in. Insurance cards being honored. Local quashed company attempt to deny hospitalization, other contract benefits.

Local 627, Fairmont, W. Va.

Until last week no one allowed to enter except payroll and management. Company asked sheriff to open picket line to let supervisors and salaried through. Local finally agreed but got commitment from company no production would be attempted. Company threatens to discontinue insurance Nov. 30, also asserts cannot process claims unless allowed in plant. Local creditors giving consideration. Support given by United Mine Workers and CIO Steelworkers.

Local 670, Huntington, W. Va.

Strike solid. Receiving support from Local 608 and from Steelworkers. Surplus food distribution being worked on. Gate collections being set up. Local taking care of hardship cases.

Locals 711 and 759 (salaried), Mansfield, O.

Morale high. Picket line strong. Richland County CIO Council will contribute \$400 a week until strike is over. Most banks and loan companies will let debts ride until strike is over. Merchants donating cash.

Local 714, Newark, O.

Although foreman are going around trying to entice people in, the company campaign is having no effect. This plant is down until settlement. Local has set up motor pool, and has strike assistance program going. Utility companies co-operating. Welfare department liberal. Lawyer fighting few threat-

ened evictions. CIO cooperation good.

Locals 724 and 760, Lima, O.

Only few salaried and management entering plant. 300 salaried furloughed. While on strike Locals trying to organize salaried workers. (760 represents only P&M salaried unit — Not office help.) Hearing scheduled soon. Paying utilities and rent for few (with promissory notes to local for amount.) Food vouchers being distributed. Merchants giving discount and contributing. Local have put on 15-minute broadcast and ad in newspaper.

Local 746, Columbus, O.

Strike 100 per cent effective. Strike assistance funds being given, also food vouchers. Solicitation committee set up. CIO Council has turned over defense fund to local. Plant gate collections organized. Local is trying to organize salaried workers. Company threatens to cut off insurance Nov. 30.

Local 777, Cleveland, O.

Our solid. Parade not only on picket line but through downtown streets. Other AFL units in shop also out—Pattern Makers, AFL Electricians and Spinners & Polishers also take turn on line. AFL Meatcutters Local 500 has donated. Local passing out food certificates. Company mailings answered by local with yard-long letter signed by membership.

Locals 850, 1502, Los Angeles, Calif.

Picket lines solid and morale high. Company propaganda having no effect. Some company salesmen have told pickets of pinch company is beginning to feel. Welfare committee active. State CIO Council pledging full support, asking locals make contributions. Appeal also being made to greater Los Angeles Council. Part time jobs being lined up for members.

Local 906, Union City, Ind.

Management sending foremen pairs into members' homes urging back to work movement. No effect. No move yet by management to halt health insurance. Strike solid.

Executive Board Reviewing Shop Steward Representation

In accordance with the Constitution of Local 301, the Executive Board is reviewing all stewards who have small groups of members with the intention of consolidating wherever possible

The Organizing Committee, which reported to the Executive Board last Monday on the recent campaign, recommended that in places where a Shop Steward had less than 20 members, those groups should be investigated. The changes will be referred to the Election Committee, which will be elected at the November Membership Meeting, and they in turn will conduct elections for Shop Stewards accordingly. The Organizing Committee also recommended that the

representation to the Executive Board should be reviewed and where a Board Member had less than 300 members, the areas should be consolidated. The Executive Board has been larger than it normally would be due to the fact that the Board enlarged during the NLRB election campaign last year and a readjustment has not been made.

The Executive Board adopted the report and recommendations of the Organizing Committee.

IUE-CIO 301 On the Job

IUE Local 301 handles thousands of grievances at all levels each year. These are just a few examples of cases, not settled at steward-foreman level, to be processed at management level.

lost time. Union demands that management correct this situation.

Bldg. 49: Group under Shop Steward J. O'Gorman protest assignment of Class B Erectors to Class A work. Union demands proper reclassification and rate adjustments.

Bldg. 29: In answer to written grievance by Shop Steward J. Griffiths, Foreman Bushill stated H. Desotell would be assigned to slitting job. Union demands management abide by commitment.

Bldg. 10: Herman Geisler, Class B Wireman with 1941 service, has been laid off due to lack of work. Union demands proper placement.

CART: Group under Shop Steward Richardson protest health hazards created by drafts at door exits. Union demands management correct this condition immediately.

CAP: Group under Shop Steward O. Lehman protest Wiremen being required to perform work out of their classification. Union demands management correct this situation.

Bldg. 273: Lottie Vrooman was reengaged 8/15/55, after absence due to lack of work. Union demands vacation payment according to Contract, Article IX, Sec. 2.

Bldg. 18: Group under Shop Steward W. Christman demand that supervision abide by agreement concerning incoming material at Door 13.

Bldg. 273: Harry Adams was not paid for tool change and an extra \$U according to foreman's agreement. Union demands proper payment.

Bldg. 16: Earl Gifford in Shop Steward W. Bikowitz' group protests inadequate price of 2.00C and .62 S/U on S.O. 447-3159V and 447-3160V drwg. 5124882. Union demands proper increase in price.

Bldg. 16: P. Amorosi under Shop Steward G. Johnson protests pay shortages. Union demands this condition be corrected for the future.

Bldg. 42: Group under Shop Steward C. Dykeman protest unnecessary material delays and lack of parts causing lack of work and

THE LEGAL CORNER

(A Column Written by Leon Novak of Novak & Diamond, Attorneys)

Watch Out for 'Home Improvement Companies'!

As the lawyer for Local 301, I have come across a problem which has robbed many members of thousands of dollars and has caused them a lot of pain and misery.

This has to do with the so-called "Home Improvement Companies". It works as follows:

A high-powered salesman comes to your home and reminds you that your dwelling looks shabby and old. For a "reasonable" price, payable on the installment plan, his company will give you new aluminum siding or some other construction material. He assures you that all the work done is guaranteed and that his "reliable" firm will stand behind it. If you ask him whether it is alright for you to see the work done before you pay the bill, he answers you that you do not have to pay a penny before the work is done. All that he wants you to do is sign the "order blank."

The poker lies in the "order blank". This is a long, printed document which is actually a written contract. As soon as you sign it, there is no "out" for you, the home owner. The contract, in very small print, states very clearly that the salesman's promises to you have no binding effect on the Company. The contract also authorizes the Company to negotiate a loan with any bank and that you, the home owner, assume the payment of this loan.

When you have signed this contract, the "Home Improvement Company" has no further interest in the matter. They deal usually with some small bank in and around New York, in which sometimes they own shares and which makes its money on the exorbitant rate of interest you pay on the loan. The "Home Improvement Company" sends in some inexperienced workmen to do the work on your home. Invariably the work is badly done.

Unfortunately, you are not in a position to do anything effective about this, because the bank expects your payments promptly and is not interested in anything but the payment of the loan. The "Home Improvement Company" is no longer interested because it has been paid in full through the bank loan. Moreover, you will find that the "Home Improvement Company" is an out-of-town firm, if it can be called a firm and that the salesman cannot be located.

In the last few years, I have had many complaints about this kind of fraud. Of course, it is useless to give warning to a home owner who already has been "stuck". My warning, now, is to home owners who are contemplating home repairs.

Do not deal with salesmen from improvement companies. Reliable construction companies do not send out high-powered salesmen. If you need some work done on your home, call in several local construction firms. Have them give you estimates or bids. Then check with a local bank as to the reliability of the man you wish to deal with. The same bank will be glad to help you with a Government, FHA loan. Thus, you will have a reliable job done sometimes at half the cost, without the payment of exorbitant interest rates and with some one to turn to in case something goes wrong with the work done.

It's Your Money

Harvey Kitzman, regional director of the CIO Auto Workers, has asked the U. S. Post Office Department to furnish him with information "on how much of the taxpayers money was wasted in sending out propaganda against Kohler strikers by Rep W. Gwinn, (R. N.Y.)."

Child Labor, 1955

The Department of Labor has obtained an injunction against the Lancaster Canning Co. of Merry Point, Virginia, prohibiting the company from employing children between the ages of 18 and 16. The youngsters were employed in tomato-peeling operations in interstate commerce.

Local 301 IUE-CIO JOINT MEMBERS and STEWARDS MEETING

Monday, Nov. 21, 1955

2nd Shift—1:00 P.M.

(Before Work)

1st and 3rd Shifts—7:30 P.M.

KRUEGER'S HALL LIBERTY and SOUTH FERRY STREETS

Election of Election Committee (25 Members)

Report of Committees Regular Order of Business

EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL 301, IUE-CIO MILES MOON, Rec. Sec'y

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301, REPRESENTING SCHEENACTADY CE WORKERS
Published by the Editorial Committee
President.....James J. Cognetta
Vice President.....Joseph Alois
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Recording Secretary.....Miles Moon
Asst. Recording Secretary.....Allen E. Townsend
Chief Shop Steward.....William Maslinski
Business Agent.....Leo Jandracu
121 ERIE BLVD. SCHEENACTADY, N. Y.

