

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

LOCAL 301 --- U. E. R. & M. W. A.

NOVEMBER 3, 1950

## UNION OFFICERS CONDEMN COMPANY'S PROPAGANDA

The Union officers in meetings with Plant Manager, Mr. Lewis J. Male, condemned the Company's misleading publicity that skilled rates had received an additional 5¢ per hour. While it may have been beyond the control of local management to publicize the facts affecting additional increases to skilled occupations, nevertheless, the Company's propaganda machine, as usual, got in on some cheap publicity when they announced additional increases to skilled occupations. The fact is that many skilled jobs did not receive any adjustment whatsoever. The officers pointed out to Mr. Male that the Company's application of this extra increase was applied indiscriminately without using a formula, rule or anything else that could be understood by the average worker. While certain jobs going down the wage scale to 1.51 per hour were increased, others that were adjusted only went down the wage scale to 1.61 per hour. Moreover other jobs paying 1.67 per hour or above were not adjusted at all. The local management claimed that certain preferential rates would be wiped out. For example, the highest paid tool and die makers (about 70) in the Schenectady Works did not receive an adjustment, while preferential rates still exist and the Company refuses to wipe them out for Die Setters, Tallymen and others.

The claim made by the Company justifying the additional raise was because in the past years the flat cents per hour increases had created an inequality to the skilled trades and they proposed to rectify this injustice. The Company's motive may have had merit; however, instead of resolving this injustice, it results into an action of discrimination and creates more inequities than existed before.

At this time, according to management, there are approximately 10,000 day workers and 6,000 piece workers in the Schenectady Works. About 3,600 received an additional increase of 5¢ over the 1.0¢ received as a result of contract negotiations. The Union requested that all day workers above the automatic progression point receive equal consideration, but the Company refused the Union's request. The Company's actions on this matter have encouraged numerous demands by many groups of workers for an increase and these cases will be processed by the Union. Likewise the action of the Company has provoked many workers. We don't think that the new speakers' bureau created recently by the local management can talk away this one very easily.

## VOTE NEXT TUESDAY, NOV. 7TH

Remember you get paid next Tuesday all day. You should make the most of it by voting. While you have won this concession through your Union, don't let politicians take your hard-won gains away from you by anti-labor legislation. Remember we still have Taft-Hartley laws. Remember we still have unreasonable tax laws. Do you know that one day out of each week you work to pay taxes? Remember your State compensation laws are inadequate. You can help yourself on Election Day if you vote, and vote right.

## TAFT-HARTLEY AFFIDAVITS O.K.'D

The national office has just been notified by the National Labor Relations Board that our compliance status is maintained and continued until July 31, 1951. Approval is granted after investigation by the Federal Dept. of Justice. We write this only for the benefit of a few of the die-hards who are still whispering about the Communist bogey, a convenient vehicle for back-riders and anti-Union elements to use.

## WRONG RATES PAID IN BLDG. 269

The Union has been notified by Executive Board member Fay Hildreth that women working on P.W. 1.20 A.E.R. have not been receiving their proper rate while on day work. Management has notified the Union that a correction will be made. Piece workers are entitled to not less than three steps below their A.E.R., while standing around (doing nothing) waiting for their machines or equipment to be repaired, or waiting for material. If they are requested to work on the job while being paid day work, they are entitled to at least the A.E.R. of 1.20 per hour. A piece worker should be requested to work day work only when exceptional circumstances warrant it. Otherwise, special prices should be applied in order to make average earnings.

SEP 21 1950

A. C. STEVENS