

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA — LOCAL 301, UE

Wednesday August 29, 1951

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

GE Wage Offer To UE

The GE Conference Board of UE Locals, meeting in New York, Monday, August 27 recommended a set of demands to the locals and served notice upon the company that UE will enter negotiations September 15 under the National Contract wage re-opener.

Within 24 hours the Company made a wage offer to UE. (See company offer at left.)

The Conference Board recommended the following demands:

A substantial wage increase, based on accurately measured living costs — not the phony BLS index.

A substantial increase in day work rates for all day workers. Elimination of inequities in earnings between day workers and other production workers, with special consideration for the skilled trades.

Removal of discrimination on women's rates, with no rates in the plant below common labor.

Increase steps in automatic progression to from 5 to 10 cents.

Three weeks vacation with pay after 10 years service. One additional holiday with pay.

Elimination of geographical differentials. A minimum pension of \$165 a month, with pension age reduced to 60. Insurance plan to provide minimum benefit of \$1 an hour, with \$40 a week for sickness or disability, increased benefits and fairer and speedier administration of insurance plan.

The UE demands recommended by the Conference Board reflect the real needs of the people.

The company's offer falls short of meeting the needs of GE employees. With company profits running at the rate of nearly \$3,000,000 a week, GE is offering a few pennies to its employees. In addition, GE's proposal completely ignores the problem of day workers, or the skilled trades and of its women workers.

UE will proceed as planned to meet GE before September 15.

UE LOCAL 301 NOW On The AIR

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**Today and Every Day
Listen To
The Voice of UE**

1540
on Your Dial

WPTR

1540
on Your Dial

12:15 P.M. 6:30 P.M.

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OPENING PROGRAM — 6:30 TONIGHT

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY
570 Lexington Ave.
New York, N. Y.

Aug. 28, 1951

Mr. Joseph Dermody
Int. Representative
UER & MWA
11 E. 57th St.
New York 22, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Dermody:—

As you know, we have been expecting to meet shortly with the U. E. representatives to discuss what should be the arrangement on wages for the period beginning September 15th, 1951.

As we have been studying the developments on the pay front— together with what we can understand of the new wage stabilization regulations—and we are now far enough along to be ready to sit down with you and discuss a wage offer for September 15th based on the total of (1) a 1% increase in wages for each 1% increase in the cost of living index since March 15 and of (2) another 2½% flat increase across the board—subject to wage stabilization approval.

This offer is contingent on an agreement to adjust wages up or down automatically next March 15 in accordance with cost of living index, if then permissible under Government regulations.

This is, of course, a rough outline of what we have in mind and I'll be able to go into the matter more fully when we get together at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

/s/ G. H. Pfeif

Manager, Union Relations.

We must make the Schenectady GE plant 100 percent UE before the opening of negotiations.

An overwhelming vote for UE Local 301 on September 14 will put an end to IUE-CIO disruption and provide the best possible basis for success in obtaining our demands in the negotiations afterward.

— VOTE UE LOCAL 301 —

UE on the Air WPTR 12:15 p.m. — 6:30 p.m. DAILY