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BY YOMEN



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Vol. 8, No. 26

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

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"We support the United States government on its action in support of the United Nations in the Korean War.

"We condemn any and all nations who initiate war.

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The run-off will be between UE and the IAM. UE topped the election, but was short of the required majority.

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1). The UE victory in the plant as a whole. Toolmakers want to remain united with the rest of the workers in the tool rooms and the whole plant in working for better conditions.

2). The fact that a separate IAM contract would destroy toolmakers' seniority on all jobs other than toolmaker.

3). The complete defeat of craft unionism in the steamfitters' strike.

4). The outstanding record of UE here in gains for toolmakers, contrasted with the poor record of the IAM in GE in Fort Wayne, where the IAM has represented the toolmakers for 40 years, but has just tagged along behind UE on

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The UE representatives told the company that 301 not only has no objection to the increase, but thinks GE should give bigger and more frequent raises. However the raise has no effect on the contract negotiations or the continuation of the union's wage demands, the union told GE.

Frank Schaaff assured the union committee the raise involves no commitment on UE's part and will in no way interfere with the national contract negotiations now in progress. He said the increases would be in the pay checks of all divisions next week and might be in this week's pay checks in some divisions.

In applying the 3 per cent raise to piece workers, he said, the increase will be added to the existing 8 per cent increase negotiated in 1948, making a total of 11 per cent above the turn-in pay.

A message from the national UE negotiating committee to all GE locals pointed out that the GE's action in putting this raise into effect right now in this manner is an unusual procedure.

"The purpose of the company in putting the 3 per cent into effect is to lull the GE employees into consenting to the destruction of their contract protections," the statement warned.

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In spite of the strong basis of its charges however, UE decided to withdraw the objections because the NLRB was using them as an excuse for long delays in certification. The stalling by the NLRB gave the General Electric Company opportunity to weaken the union's contract negotiations and tie up grievance procedure.

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# Corsi Pledges UE-301 Prompt Hearing On Unemployment Insurance Claims

State Industrial Commissioner Edward Corsi told a UE 301 committee Tuesday that he will arrange for an immediate hearing before a state referee on the reasons for recent wholesale layoffs in Turbine and Motor and Generator.

Although the approximately 3,000 laid-off workers are back in the plant now, they have a big stake in the outcome of the proceedings as their right to unemployment insurance is at issue.

The Schenectady office of the Division of Placement and Unemployment Insurance ruled they would have to wait seven weeks to become eligible for jobless checks because the General Electric Company claimed they were laid off as a result of the AFL Steamfitters strike. UE 301 has presented factual evidence that the strike was not the cause of most of the layoffs, but that the workers were laid off as a result of GE's own production schedule.

Vice-President Joseph Mangino, Executive Board Member William Stewart and the UE 301 attorney, Marshall Perlin, met with Corsi in New York City Tuesday.

### Statement by Corsi

The commissioner told them that the Division of Placement and Unemployment Insurance is legally bound by the statement of an employer that layoffs resulted from an industrial dispute, unless a hearing takes place. This policy has been adopted by the Appeals Board of the division, according to Corsi, and made the action of the Schenectady office automatic.

Corsi said he agreed with UE that a change would be wise in both the law and the interpretation. He advised the union to prepare a memorandum on its position on the unfair interpretation of the law and to present it to the Advisory Board of the Division of Placement and Unemployment Insurance.

Corsi promised to arrange for the union to appear before the Hughes legislative committee investigating unemployment insurance.

ance to present testimony on the need for a change in the law.

### Protest New Procedure

The 301 representatives protested to Corsi against the new state procedure of writing to every employer for whom a worker has worked during the benefit year as soon as the worker applies for unemployment insurance. The state asks each employer whether he knows any reason the worker shouldn't get jobless pay and whether he has any sort of job for him.

### Hardship for Workers

The UE committee pointed out that this procedure practically invites employers to challenge the rights of workers to jobless pay and will create delays and hardship.

Corsi denied any such intention and claimed the change would speed payments.

The union committee also criticized Corsi's request to physicians to be strict in certifying workers as disabled, under the new state Disability Insurance law.

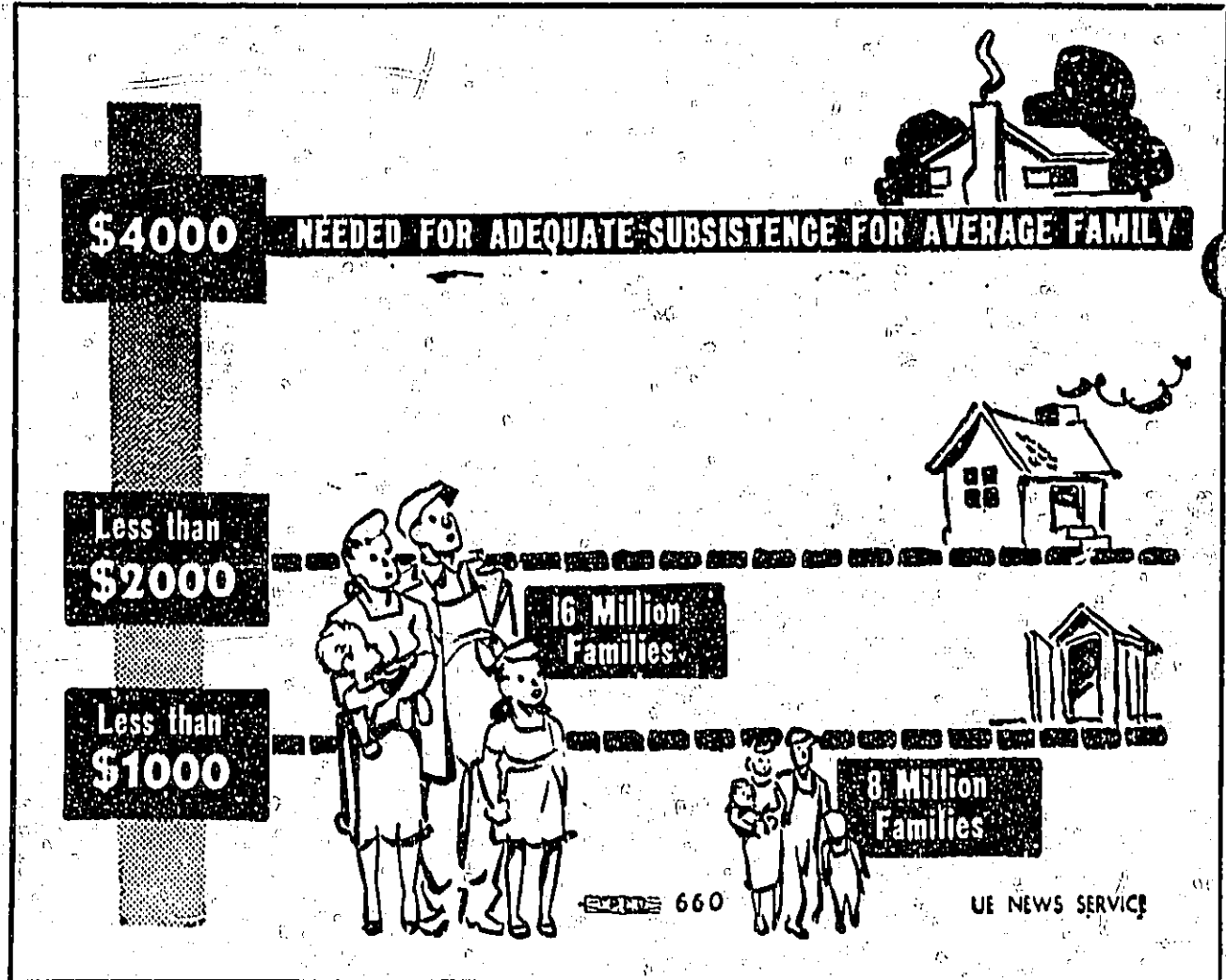
Another protest the committee made to Corsi concerned the tightening up on jobless benefits for pensioners who retire before 65.

## How GE Watches Out For One of Its Own

Here's an interesting example of how GE takes care of its own—in this case a character named John Foley who did a company union IUE job at the Everett, Mass., plant.

Foley, who used to be a guard, had a full-time paid job working for the Fred Kelley machine in UE Local 201. He switched to IUE with Kelley and had an IUE full-time job.

But guards were excluded from the NLRB election, and Foley would have been out of his soft IUE berth—and would have had to do a day's work as a guard for a living again—if GE hadn't come to his rescue. The company transferred him out of the guard force to the shop and he can continue on the IUE payroll, and keep his GE job rights.



## 301 Approves Report Of Trial Committee

On recommendation of the trial committee, the UE 301 joint membership and shop stewards' meeting this week exonerated Maude Spearburg of K-1 of charges filed against her and expelled six men for raiding and secession activities:

Those expelled are: Wallace Leonard of Building 273; Armin Nickel, Henry Frick, Andy Farillo and Raymond Theisen, all of Bldg. 85, and Clifford Leger, Bldg. 46.

## Peoria Contract Gains

Gains in the new UE contract at the Brass Foundry Company, Peoria, Ill., include a general wage increase of 5 cents an hour, a jump of 10 cents in the minimum hiring rates and an additional 1-cent an hour to cover inequities.

UE also won a 5 cents an hour raise at Peoria Malleable Castings Company.



## Compulsory Overtime Defeated at Erie GE

The General Electric Company tried unsuccessfully recently at the Erie plant to make Saturday work compulsory for Cabinet Division workers ordered to work that day. Supervision passed out an order that any worker told to work on Saturday would have to do so or be transferred to another job.

UE 506 members took the position that Saturday work is not mandatory and that if management attempted to transfer any workers for refusal to work Saturday, then all the workers would have to be transferred.

Management rescinded the "work Saturday or be disciplined" order.

In national contract negotiations GE is trying to add a provision giving it the right to require overtime work.

## Strike Victory

A week's UE strike at Martin Steel Products, Mansfield, Ohio, won a wage increase of 7 cents an hour for all workers.

## UE Negotiations

(Continued from page one)

shown by members in some plants, and of the disunity created by the IUE-CIO, Jandreau declared.

In the discussion of the 3 per cent raise which GE offered and is now putting into effect outside the negotiations, the company committee took the position that it was not obliged to negotiate with the unions in more than one plant at a time, as the NLRB vote was by single plants.

The negotiations continued Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and will resume next Monday.

## UE Strike Continues At Westinghouse Plant

The UE strike at the Westinghouse plant at Essington (South Philadelphia) was in its third week when the EU News went to press Wednesday.

Both factory workers and office workers of the big Turbine plant belong to UE Local 107 and are taking part in the protest stoppage. The engineers' group, — a separate organization — tried to cross the picket lines but didn't get into the plant.

Negotiations were continuing this week for a local supplement to the national Westinghouse contract, to cover the applications at Essington of such things as the general grievance procedures and the general lay-off and seniority provisions.

### Company Violates Agreement

The strike resulted because the company violated an interim agreement which they had with Local 107 on the handling and processing of grievances. The general committee of Local 107 and the business agent were barred from the plant through a letter to the guards sent out by the industrial relations division.

The attack against Local 107 is one of the efforts being made by Westinghouse to break down the UE national negotiating committee's demand for a return to the former contract procedures.

### Slow Down at Nuttal

A slow-down has been going on for the past two weeks in Nuttal, part of the East Pittsburgh Works, in an effort by UE Local 601 to stop the company's attempt to cut time values outside of the regular procedures.

Short work stoppages took place recently at IUE Westinghouse shops at Buffalo and Sharon where the workers demanded that UE contract conditions be restored.

### Strike at Fairmont

Strike action took place at the IUE plant at Fairmont over accumulated grievances, climaxed by the firing of a porter. The glass plant at Fairmont, which is UE, remained away from work in support of the action of the IUE workers against the company.

National UE negotiations with Westinghouse continued Monday. The company is trying to weaken the contract by three major changes: in seniority, in the system of shop stewards and grievance procedure, and piece work prices.

## MR. BLOWHARD

MR. B' SAYS EVERY ONE HAS A DUTY TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS.

PEOPLE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO FORM OPINIONS OF THEIR OWN. THIS IS A FREE COUNTRY!

BUT JUST LET HIM HEAR ONE OF HIS 'YES' MEN SAY 'NO'...

YOU'VE CONTRADICTED ME FOR THE FIRST AND LAST TIME, SHIVERS... YOU'RE FIRED! WE MUST HAVE DISCIPLINE!

...BUT I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT THE DEPRESSION STARTED UNDER HOOVER...

POOR SHIVERS HE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER.

UE NEWS SERVICE

## UE Winner

UE's victory at the Westinghouse plant in Jersey City, N. J., was established beyond any possible doubt last week when challenged votes were opened and counted. The majority of the challenged votes were found to be for UE. The final vote for the plant, by ruling of the NLRB, was 387 for UE and 352 for IUE.

## Joint Meeting Okayed

Approval of the summer schedule of joint meetings of shop stewards and the membership for July and August was voted by the UE 301 membership and stewards' meeting this week at the union hall.

The joint meeting for August, as recommended by the Executive Board, will be August 15.

## UE Trounces IUE At Lowell GE

An outstanding UE victory was scored July 6 when the previously unorganized General Electric plant at Lowell, Mass., voted for UE over IUE by nearly a four to one majority. The vote in the NLRB election was 197 for UE; 49 for IUE and 30 for no union.

William J. Kelly, UE 301 president, was chief speaker the week before the election at a UE meeting of the Lowell workers. He found them keenly interested in the 301 record and in current national UE contract negotiations with GE.

The Lowell victory was won in the face of extreme pressure from anti-labor forces and efforts to stir up hysteria. A leading local priest and the assistant editor of a Lowell daily newspaper personally visited UE key workers in an unsuccessful attempt to turn them against UE.

UE's victory at Lowell is looked upon as the opening gun in the union's campaign to bring unorganized workers of the electrical industry into the ranks of UE within the next few months.

## UE Bargaining Program for GE

This is what UE is asking of the General Electric Company by membership decision in national contract negotiations.

1. Immediate extension of the expired contract.
2. Negotiation on the changes proposed by the GE Conference Board of GE locals, including:

- A. Shorter work week with 40 hours pay, to provide jobs, and also to solve the third shift problem.
- B. 10-cents per hour raise, over and above what is needed to maintain take-home on a shorter work week.
- C. A pension plan guaranteeing \$125 a month, to increase as Social Security is improved.
- D. Company-paid hospitalization and insurance plan.
- E. A separate wage adjustment to correct the skilled craft rates.
- F. Removal of remaining discrimination in women's rates.
- G. Improved grievance procedure.
- H. Sunday double time to apply to continuous operations.
- I. Union shop.
- J. Anti-discrimination clause.

And improvement in various contract provisions, including stronger seniority and piece-work guarantees, better provisions on holidays and vacations, promotion opportunities, transfers, and service breaks and removal of geographical differentials.

## 5-Cent Raise

UE won a 5 cents an hour pay raise for all workers at Capehart-Farnsworth Corporation, Fort Wayne, Ind.

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