

# LOCAL 301 NEWS

## IUE - AFL - CIO

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The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, IUE

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August 7, 1959

### White Collar Drive

OTTAWA (CPA)—A committee to co-ordinate organizing of white collar employees has been established by the Canadian Labor Congress, executive vice-president William Dodge announced here. Joe MacKenzie, director of the Congress Department of Organization, is chairman of the new committee.

The white collar group is composed of representatives of 20 CLC-affiliated unions with members in white collar occupations. The committee will provide a clearing house for information on the extent of organization, trends in bargaining, and wage and salary data in the growing white collar field. Major groups of white collar workers are now employed in the steel, railway and automobile industries, and in general business offices.

Potential eligible union membership of white collar workers in Canada is estimated by the 1,160,000-member Congress at more than 50 thousand. Only about 10 per cent of this total is now organized in the labor movement.

The new CLC committee will meet at regular intervals to receive and evaluate reports on organizing progress in the white collar field, and to develop programs for new organizing campaigns, Mr. Dodge said.

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IN UNITY THERE IS STRENGTH!



"I want a man with initiative and leadership; now get in there and do exactly as I tell you."

### Bill To Provide Better Housing For Senior Citizens Wins Approval

A large group of elderly people crowded the City Hall in Schenectady recently for a hearing and debate by the city council on a bill to provide better housing for the senior citizens of this city.

Euclid Roberts and yours truly represented the Pensioners Club, while Local 301, sent three delegates from the union.

The bill to provide housing for the senior citizens was passed by a large majority vote.

We also received word from our Congressman Samuel Stratton that the Forand Bill has been

brought out to the Ways and Means Committee for debate and is being studied by that committee. It looks, now, as though this Bill will be deferred until 1960. This is the Bill that our elderly people have been working so hard for.

Our club members mailed 670 postal cards to Congressmen and Senators in addition to the many letters urging their support on this much needed bill.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

### A PLEA FOR 1959

- Are you an active member, the kind that's liked so well?
- Or are you just contented, with the button on your lapel?
- Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the craft?
- Or are you content to stay at home, and criticize and laugh?
- Do you take an active part, to help the work along?
- Or are you satisfied to be the kind that just belongs?
- Do you attend the meetings of your own accord,
- Or leave the work to just a few—members of the board?

There's quite a program scheduled that you will hear about, And we'll appreciate it, if you'll come and help us out. So come out to the meetings; help in hand and heart. Don't just be a member, but take an active part. Think this over, brother, you sure know right from wrong. Be an attending member, instead of one who just belongs.

Submitted by a local member.

WSNY 1240 ON YOUR DIAL  
"LABOR LOOKS AT THE NEWS"  
SATURDAY EVENINGS — 6:45-7:00 P. M.  
— Sponsored by Local 301, I. U. E. —

### GINN'S OUTLOOK ON GE EMPLOYMENT VERY MISLEADING

NOBODY WANTS A STRIKE...BUT...

NOBODY WANTS A STRIKE. NOBODY LIKES STRIKES...BUT...IN EVERY CASE WHERE A STRIKE HAS OCCURRED, IT HAS BEEN FORCED UPON THE MEMBERSHIP BY BIG BUSINESS.

If the companies involved really sat down at the bargaining table and negotiated in "GOOD FAITH", there would never be any reason for union members to have to strike.

Speaking of negotiating in "GOOD FAITH", let's take a look at the 1958 sessions between GE and the IUE.

GE and IUE signed a 5-year contract in 1955 with a reopener in 1958 on Employment Security. However, in 1958, the GE refused to talk about Employment Security, but instead they offered a so-called savings and security plan which, in their own words, would cost them nothing. It had nothing to do with Employment Security.

When President Carey says that we owe GE a strike, it is very clear what he means because under ordinary circumstances in 1958, when GE REFUSED TO BARGAIN IN "GOOD FAITH" on Employment Security, there should have been a strike.

RATHER THAN BARGAIN IN "GOOD FAITH", GE started the propaganda presses rolling. For example: They told the people in Schenectady that if they voted for a strike, it would be a long and bitter one and they would make a ghost town out of Schenectady.

They said, however, that if the people voted against a strike, THERE COULD BE 4,000 MORE JOBS in Schenectady and that the future would be bright.

Well, here it is one year later and we have had nothing but a continual decline in employment at the Schenectady plant and the future looks very black. Therefore, it is certainly easy to understand why our National President, James Carey, feels that we owe GE a strike.

OF COURSE, GE KNOWS that no one including Pres. Carey wants a strike if GE will bargain in "good faith" and give their employees what they so justly deserve.

CONTRARY TO THE BRIGHT PICTURE PAINTED BY GINN, there is still going to be a large layoff in the GE Steam-Turbine Department.

Representatives of the Union met with management last Thursday on the outlook in the Steam-Turbine Department.

The present estimate is that employment will drop by 1,000 people by Dec. 1, 1959. This is 850 in the bargaining unit and from 150 to 250 employees in the salaried group.

THE UNION WAS INFORMED by the Turbine management that they did not anticipate any pick-up in employment in that department until the last quarter of 1961. We as a Union fail to see anything optimistic in this report.

According to Mr. Ginn's own report, during 1960 and 1961 there will be only 22,000 persons employed in GE in the Schenectady plant. We find very little consolation in this when only five short years ago there were over 40,000 people employed in the local plant.

We as a Union feel that if the representatives of GE were really interested in improving the unemployment situation in Schenectady, they should sub-contract into this city some of the government orders they have on hand...and that they should utilize some of the surplus skilled help we have in Schenectady. There are many empty buildings and idle machines which could be put to use to alleviate the unemployment situation in Schenectady.

THIS WOULD INDEED HELP TO TIDE US OVER THE LEAN YEARS OF 1960 AND 1961.

We also find very little consolation in Ginn's statement that they will be recalling 100 people a month to replace the people who retire or die. This certainly will mean no increase in the number of people employed in Schenectady.

(cont'd. on reverse side)

However, GE will try to get every bit of mileage they can out of President Carey's statement in an attempt to "Drive a Wedge" between the Local Union and our National Officers.

OUR ANSWER? "WE WILL NOT BE DIVIDED!"