

The AFL-CIO Tax Program for 1958

1. Raise basic exemptions from \$600 to \$700.
2. Eliminate income taxes on contribution to Government retirement funds.
3. Recapture revenue by closing tax loopholes that are used by those in the high income brackets and corporations.
4. Ease the tax burden on small companies.

The \$600 exemption was set by the government in 1948 as the minimum basic living allowance for the taxpayer and his dependents. Since 1948 the consumer price index has risen almost 19 percent. Today, in order to equal the purchasing power of this basic exemption at the time that it was established almost ten years ago, the \$600 exemption would have to be raised to \$713.

The Heller Committee reports that a wage earner with a family of four needed an annual income of \$5,832 to rent his home, pay taxes and maintain a commonly accepted living standard in September 1957, while for a wage earner of families that owned their home required an income of \$6,204. Obviously, action is long overdue by Congress to raise the basic personal exemption from \$600 to \$700 in addition to organized labor negotiating substantial wage increases for the workers.

While our income tax structure still retains a schedule of progressive tax rates from 20 to 91 percent, the higher rates in most instances have become meaningless. Upper income taxpayers utilize a variety of tax avoidance devices to reduce substantially the impact of schedules rates.

The Treasury Department's Statistics of Income provides some insight into this issue. For example, the 1955 figures report a total of 267 individuals filing income tax returns with an adjusted gross income of \$1 million or more. Total adjusted gross income reported by these individuals was over \$550 million. However, four of these individuals did not pay even one cent in taxes to Uncle Sam. The tax liability of the remaining 263 amounted to \$291 million or 53 percent of their total adjusted gross income. This is certainly a far cry from the 80 percent or higher rates which on paper apply to these incomes. Examining other high income categories, it develops that for all returns reporting adjusted gross income over \$100,000, the effective tax rate in 1955 was only 46 percent. This contrasts to the scheduled rate of 75 percent and over for incomes above \$100,000.

The contrast between the scheduled rate and the rate actually paid confirms the effectiveness of the previously mentioned tax-avoidance devices available to upper-income taxpayers.

Eliminate the carry-back, carry forward provision of the corporate income tax which grants special tax windfalls to purchasers of corporations with heavy losses, which

will give the government approximately \$100 million in added revenue.

Eliminate the requirement that workers pay income taxes on their contributions to government retirement funds. One very special tax problem of workers is the fact that the present law forces them to pay income taxes on income which is actually used to contribute to various government retirement systems (Old Age and Survivors Insurance, Civil Service, and Railroad Retirement). This inequity should be eliminated by excluding these contributions from income for income tax purposes and from wages for withholding purposes. However, there should be an upper limit of \$500 placed on the amount of contributions that could be thus excluded from income.

Action is long overdue to restore the principle of taxation according to ability to pay to its rightful place as the first principle of the American Income Tax System.

The Present Unemployment Situation

(Continued from Page 1)

Another strange fantastic idea on the part of G.E. is found in its "Year-End Review". It declares: "Many thoughtful observers believe that our country's output is now easily 20% below actual capacity of our greatly improved existing facilities and our present personnel for the hours presently worked."

Let us remind G.E. that if they complain the workers are irresponsible, it is because they in the past have not made them responsible. The best defenders of true capitalism are those who have some capital to defend. Workers might sit down on someone else's tools, but they will not sit down on their own.

G.E. further states that a change in attitude alone can apparently add something like 20% of our country's gross national product with no more facilities, no more workers and no longer hours.

We wonder whether GE's statement refers to Mr. Cordner, Mr. Boulware, Mr. Day, Pres. Eisenhower or whether the "work force" simply refers to people who work in the office and on the production line. However, let us assume that if this 20% increase in productivity is possible and workers on the production line put out 20% more work, would they get 20% higher wages and purchasing power?

While we find on the one hand

AS I SEE IT

by CHARLES SCOTT

The pious attitude of management when wailing to the public press about the sacredness of the Contract is a wondrous sight to behold especially when you compare their attitude toward the same Contract when it applies to employees who are being transferred. When, after a vicious barrage of abuse, a group finally in desperation walks out to avoid a continuance of this abuse, management runs to the public press loudly proclaiming these workers have violated a contract which we hold in high regard and we will now punish these workers and their families by giving them penalty time off and cutting their pay. Weeping "crocodile tears", management then says they must do this because these men must be taught that a contract is not something to be regarded lightly.

Case #8532-58 shows the way the Company feels toward the Contract in regards to transfer of employees who are being displaced because of the General Electric's "runaway shop — higher profit plan". The employee involved in this case has seniority over 17

other employees on the identical classification. When Union representatives asked management to bump longer service employees into this classification, management's answer to the Union was we will not allow anyone to bump into this classification unless they are qualified. We did not agree and had many discussions with management protesting this arbitrary attitude. When the complainant in Case #8532-58 was reached on a lack of work, we informed management that we have an employee with the identical classification and rate and he should be allowed to displace a shorter service employee on his classification. Management then changed from their first story which was—you must be a qualified employee to bump. The "New Look" now is: you are not qualified enough!

I want the employees of Schenectady G.E. to clearly understand that this employee had more service than 17 other employees, as much as 3 years difference.

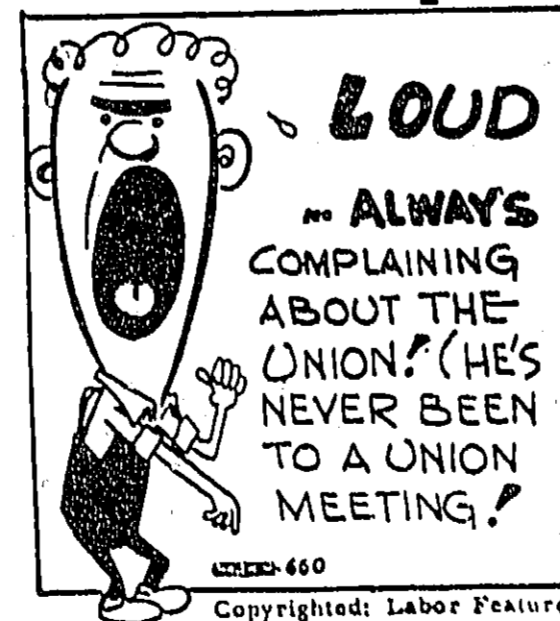
The answer given by management at the second level was "We will not allow this employee to bump".

How many more violations of the Seniority Supplement will have to occur before the membership takes steps to correct this type of violation by management is entirely up to each member reading this article.

Take time out now to remember that a Union was formed to protect the very thing, seniority, that the Company now disregards.

If you, the members, allow your contract to be slowly torn apart, you will soon be back to the "good old days" of building supervisor's camps on your weekends and making sure that the car you bought came from the right dealer.

Small People



Did You Know?

A Baxley, Georgia, law required that each union organizer pay a \$2,000 license fee plus \$500 for each member signed up.

The Supreme Court recently declared this law unconstitutional and illegal.

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

Vol. 4 — No. 29

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

April 18, 1958

Company Yields To Union Demands

In a vicious attempt to discredit the leaders of Local 301, G.E. management took a blown-up story of an oil can to the community. How silly can G.E. get? Did they really think that the community would believe such a fantastic, childish interpretation of a strike issue?

Here are the real issues of the case:—

The Chipper and Flame Gouger Groups in the L.S.T & G. Dept. on 1/31/57, processed a case protesting being assigned work out of their classification. The foreman's answer was unsatisfactory, so the group did the assigned work under protest. The Union moved the case to the second level of the grievance procedure. At that level it was not settled either, so the case was moved to the third or New York level in accordance with the Contract. On 3/13/58, the answer in N. Y. was the same as usual — they agreed with local management. N. Y. no longer tries to resolve issues but makes the department managers take the responsibilities of which they do not seem capable.

If the General Electric Company was sincere in their efforts to settle this case, they would have done as they did in a previous grievance in Bldg. 49. In 1956 a similar situation existed in that building. The Company tried to assign a liquid penetrant (red dye) check to the Inspectors instead of the Magna Flux Checkers. This was settled by having the job where it belonged and having the Magna Flux Checkers do it.

Under decentralization it is becoming more evident each day that although a case may be settled satisfactorily in one department, another identical case may show up in another department and that department's manager will not settle on the basis of the previous case. This forces the Union to take more and more of the same type of cases to different managers for settlement. In the past when central management made the decisions and all department managers had to abide by that decision, many problems were settled once and for all time. Many problems face our members today because of decentralization and the fact that all seventeen managers interpret the Contract differently. Each man-

ager tries to get away with as much as he can and when he finds he is in trouble, he knows the Company must back him up to save face.

The week after the case of the Chippers and Flame Gougers was talked in New York, the Company tried to assign some of the Magna Flux Checker's work to them. When they refused to do this work and pointed out that their case had been to N. Y. and now they could strike if necessary, the department changed their approach. Two labor relations people talked to the men and said that the Mag Testmen would do their work and the Chippers and Flame Gougers theirs.

Following this agreement on March 31st, a foreman told the shop steward who represents the Chippers and Flame Gougers that he must use the liquid penetrant formerly used by the Magnetic Testmen or be sent home. When the steward refused, he was sent home and the rest of the group followed. When it became evident that the case was not going to be settled, a strike vote was taken in the Turbine Dept. The issue was clear to all the members in that department that the Company was determined to work this group out of classification through one means or another, so the vote was overwhelming in favor of a strike.

On April 8th, a meeting was held in the Turbine Dept. It was the understanding of the Union Negotiating Committee that Mr. Saupé, the Manager, was to attend. The meeting was not successful and it must be pointed out that Mr. Saupé was not there. After the meeting, the whole Turbine Dept. went on strike. At that time and in the days following, the propaganda from this department was based on a big lie of how many people were working each shift. This was an attempt to start a back to work

(Continued on Page 4)

Grass Roots Meetings Irritate General Electric

Things G.E. Does Not Tell the Public

The psychological cruelty imposed on people with as high as 44 years of service. In this case where the cleaning area of some porters was doubled and sometimes tripled while Mr. Boulware, a G.E. Vice-President with approximately 10 years of service, is being paid a fabulous salary as a consultant, a title created for him to give him a chance to taper off and get in the habit of being retired.

A case involving a long service employee who put in a request for the 1st shift. Since he has put in his request for the 1st shift, there have been shorter service employees placed on the same occupation on the day shift. We feel that the employee's request should be honored.

Vital issues at stake between the Company and the IUE on a national level were highlighted in resolutions adopted by the IUE representatives in Pittsfield, Saturday, April 12, 1958.

The resolutions adopted at the Pittsfield conference Saturday on nationwide G.E. labor practices challenge a press release of last week in which G.E. states, "it will not grant any substantial employment security demands of the Union."

Under a "reopener clause" in 1955 contract, IUE-GE negotiations are scheduled to begin Sept. 1, with a right to strike if no agreement is reached by Oct. 1.

(Continued on Page 4)



Farming Out Of Work

An increasing threat to the employment security of our members is posed by a growing practice of farming out or sub-contracting work that properly belongs in the bargaining unit.

Steps Needed to Solve Wage Problems

It is clear, then, that attaining of the annual wage ideal involves the solution of three great economic problems, unregulated competition, concentration of economic power and consequent price domination, and the revival of stricken industries. None of these problems cannot be solved by labor alone. The absence of a genuine cooperative spirit among business men, of a widespread sense of social responsibility and a concern for the rights of the consumer, precludes such action. The problems will become far worse if we persist in the great American tradition of individualism. It seems that the only practical solution involves some sort of guidance, regulation and supervision by the agency entrusted with the primary right and duty of promoting the general welfare, namely, the Sovereign State. It would be preferable if most of these steps were fostered as far as possible by the parties directly involved.

Some employers sub-contract work to non-union shops where employees are obliged to do it under non-union conditions. In some cases employers have even paid higher sums to have work sub-contracted simply in order to create a feeling of insecurity among our membership.

Many IUE contracts already require that no work may be farmed out until the full capacity of the plant has been utilized and all employees on layoff have been recalled. This provision should be incorporated in our agreement and the manner in which sub-contracting may be carried on should be spelled out.

Where work cannot properly be performed within the plant there is no reason why it should not be sub-contracted. But where the manpower and facilities are available certainly an employment security program should provide that limitations should be placed upon this practice.

Current Events In My Section

by Allen E. Townsend

Docket #7893-57 filed in the Tube Dept. shortly after the recent death by electrocution of one of our fellow workers points out the callous disregard of Tube management to even a few suggestions by the Union in the name of safety.

The subject matter of this grievance which speaks for itself is as follows:

"We feel that the management of the Tube Division failed to maintain proper safety precautions as provided in Article III (1) of the contract in the untimely death of one of our co-workers on November 1, 1957. We have waited for two weeks for an answer to our original written grievance in the shop but none has been given to the shop steward. Perhaps management feels the investigation held in the department on about November 8, 1957, with the Union answers the case. In our opinion a further meeting is necessary to find out what corrective measures will be taken by the Company to prevent a recurrence of this."

After this grievance was filed, a joint investigation was held with Tube management on November 26, 1957. The Union committee was composed of a Cl. A Electrician and a Cl. A Testman, both experts in their fields. This committee came up with four recommendations which are as follows:

1. Eliminate ground contacts by using rubber mats or rubber base spray.

2. Install a shelf on the inside of the cage door on which to place the calibrating meter.

3. To have calibration of meters done by qualified Electricians or the General Engineering Lab. in the future.

4. To have the grill work covered with plexi-glass to a safe height to prevent putting leads through the grill work.

On November 27, 1957, these recommendations were put in letter form and mailed to the Tube management. We stated in this letter we felt if these improvements were made, it would prevent any recurrence of this unfortunate accident. About one month later on December 31, 1957, we received a letter from Tube management thanking us for our interest in the matter and assuring us that our suggestions would be given every consideration. After waiting another twelve weeks with no further word from the Company, we finally in desperation rescheduled the case in the department for final disposition. At this meeting Tube management stated flatly that our safety recommendations were not necessary. To this date, we have never received any communication from Tube management stating what corrective measures, if any, they would take to prevent another accident of this type.

Corporation Profits Up--Employment Down

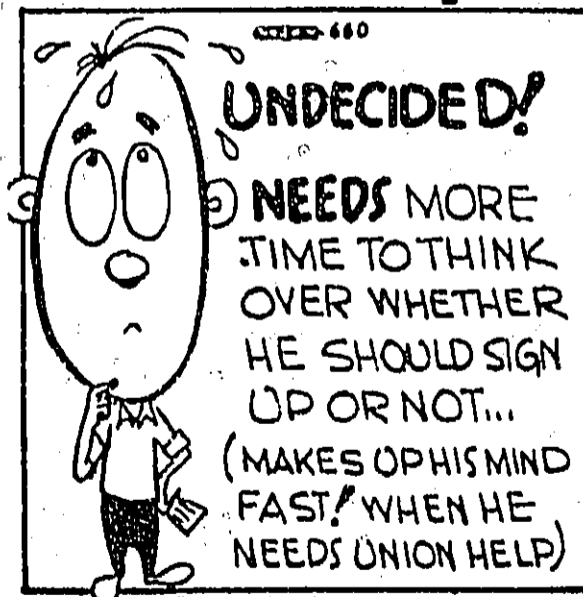
Cash dividends in 1957 by companies issuing public reports totaled \$11.5 billion, which is \$200 million more than the 1956 record, according to the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Meantime, the Interstate Commerce Commission reported that the nation's railroads increased their dividend payments from \$323,500,000 in the first 11 months of 1956 to \$340 million in the same period last year.

No mention was made of the fact that 12 percent of all rail workers are now jobless and that employment on the rails has dropped below one million for the first time since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

U. S. Steel earned all-time record profits last year, despite lower production and employment. Net profits were \$419,000,000, although operations only averaged 86 percent of capacity. An average of 270,938 workers were employed last year as against 272,646 two years earlier.

SMALL People



NOTICE Specially Called Executive Board Meeting

Monday, April 28, 1958
7:30 P.M.

UNION AUDITORIUM
121 Erie Blvd.

G.E. Deliberately Misleads Office Workers

After the IUE called a meeting of office workers which was to be held at the Union Hall on April 10, 1958, the Company fearing the organization of its office workers into a powerful union, issued a deliberately misleading letter to its office workers informing them that "members of management" were not to attend this meeting. Nowhere did this letter make it clear that office workers are not members of management and that office workers have a legal and moral right to organize a union. Only supervisory employees are members of management and if the Company did not seek to interfere with the office workers' desire to improve their working conditions, the Company would have made it clear that they were referring only to supervisory employees.

This proves again that the Company has been getting away with arbitrary and callous treatment of their office workers by trying to make them believe that they are members of management instead of employees who are pushed around. Office workers will be asked to attend another meeting soon and supervisory employees should stay away. The meeting which was held

Survey Shows Union Methods Democratic

Trade union leadership is devoted to the democratic processes, according to a recent study conducted by the University of Denver.

The findings indicate that a majority of current trade union leadership is striving at a conscious level to breathe new life into their organizations with grass roots injection of democracy.

The Denver University professor who made the study, Don A. Seastone, found there is no basis for the idea that there are many "labor bosses" who "conduct unions without reference to rank and file opinion and welfare."

Reminder to Korean Vets

Korean war veterans who have exhausted State Unemployment Insurance payments were reminded today that they may be eligible for federal benefits of \$26 a week under the Unemployment Compensation for Veterans Program established by the Veterans Readjustment Act of 1952.

on April 10th, was successful despite the Company and the Company will soon feel its results.

SALARIED WORKERS MEETING

APRIL 30th, 1958 — 7:30 P.M.

IUE-AFL-CIO NEW AUDITORIUM — 121 Erie Blvd.

SPEAKERS:

EDWARD PELKE—Pres. Salaried Workers of Local 255-G.E., Pittsfield
JOHN DILLON—National Chairman, IUE-AFL-CIO Salaries, Professional & Technical Workers

Please plan to attend and bring a co-worker.

A Pat on the Back For Mr. Hallenbeck

To some foremen in G.E. classification means nothing, if it will put a feather in their cap. Just such a foreman, we have in Bldg. 17-1, Machine Repair. Foreman Hallenbeck doesn't care what he tells his men to do, carpenter work, steel work or painting. The next thing he will try and have them do is hang doors. He has even tried to have Machine Repair men weld.

Take it easy, Mr. Hallenbeck, you are no different from anyone else. You too are going to be utilized.

Attend Your Union Meeting

Did You Know?

Erie Railroad President told stockholders at the annual meeting in New York that at the start of 1958, salaries of all executives receiving more than \$12,000 a year were cut 10%.

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301, REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee

President Harry Williams
Vice President John Shamba
Treasurer Gerald O'Brien
Recording Secretary Larry Gebro
Ass't Recording Secretary Michael Rakvica
Chief Shop Steward Vincent D'Intenzo
121 ERIE BLVD. SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

Attitude of Colonie Police Protested

A copy of the following letter, along with a letter from the Executive Chambers, has been sent to the Chief of Police of Colonie. It is expected that the Colonie Police will begin to treat the strikers fairly and cease their discriminatory practices.

On Friday, April 4, 1958, State Mediator Ernest Lanoue was ordered into the dispute by the New York State Administration. The IUE has agreed to discussions between Streck's, IUE and arbitrator.

April 2, 1958

Hon. Governor Averell Harriman
Executive Chambers
State Capital
Albany, New York

Dear Sir:

On March 11, 1958, the employees of Streck Machine Co., Watervliet, N. Y., demanded recognition or an immediate election for representation by IUE-AFL-CIO on collective bargaining. Mr. Streck, President of the company, refused and instead informed the employees that they would be laid-off the following day.

The men then struck the plant on March 12, 1958. State Mediator Hazel offered to intercede twice, his offer was accepted by the IUE but rejected by the company. Father Lamanna, a member of the clergy, also offered to intercede but was also rebuffed by the company.

During this period the Colonie police have subjected the pickets to verbal abuse and threats.

Foreman Chester Cerwonka has threatened over the phone to run over any pickets that are in his way. He made two attempts to run over peaceful pickets and was successful on April 2, 1958, at approximately 6:50 A.M. at which time he knocked down and injured three (3) pickets, and continued on his way.

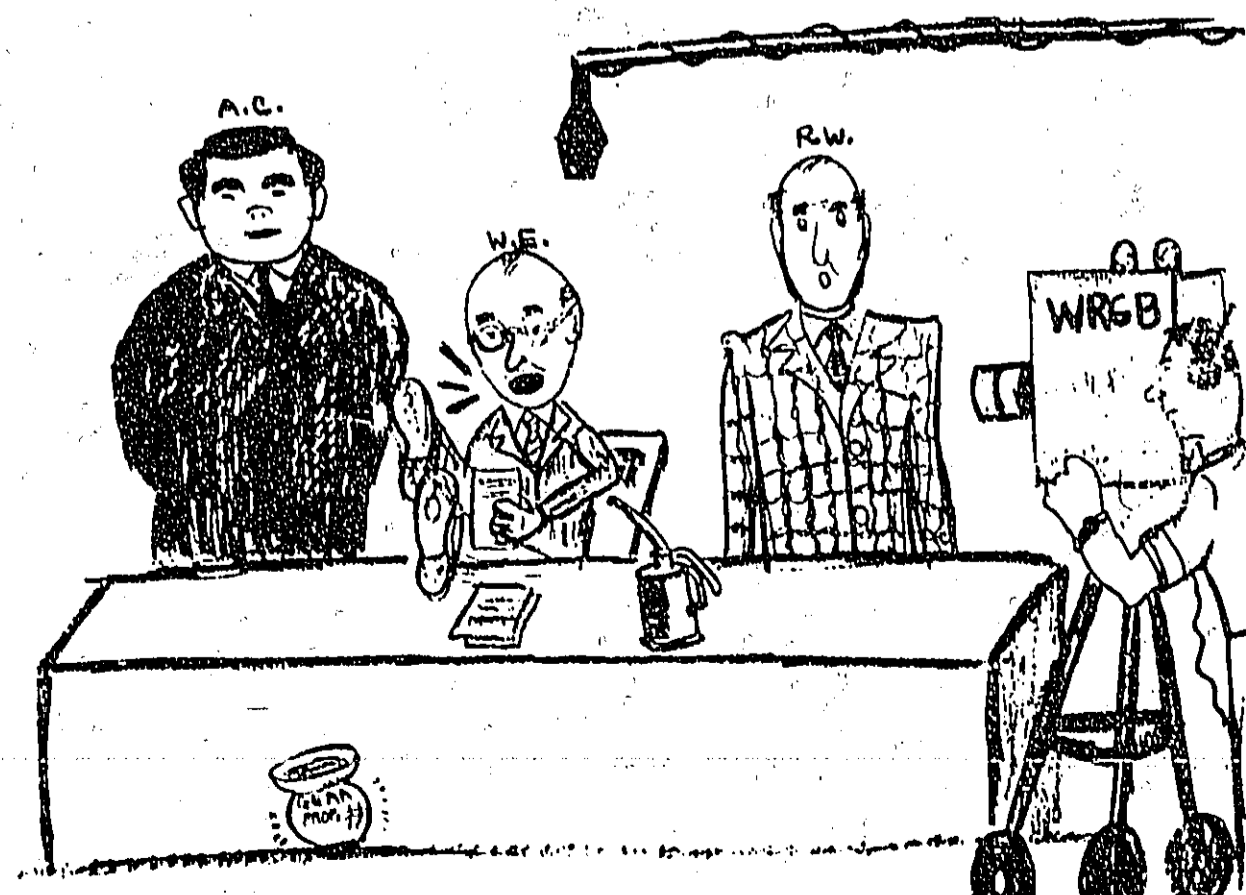
There was no attempt by the two witnessing Colonie policemen to stop Mr. Chet Cerwonka. On the insistence of myself, Sid Teachman, and others, the police finally brought this man out of the plant and after quite a delay took him to the Colonie police station. Mr. Teachman and Mr. Cooney went to the police station and demanded the arrest of Mr. Cerwonka. They were then subjected to vile language and threats and were forced to leave. The police wrote down Mr. Cerwonka's statement, then returned him to the plant and released him.

This has caused great unrest among the strikers and brothers and sisters in the IUE-AFL-CIO. Peaceful picketing is allowed by the law of this Nation and State and strikers are entitled to the same protection as non-strikers. This is not the case in Watervliet, and I am asking you to take immediate steps to correct the abuse of pickets by the Colonie police.

Respectfully,

Jack R. Suarez, President
District #3, IUE, AFL-CIO

JRS/gc



HELLO WILKOLKS, THIS IS BILL SAUBE BRINGING YOU MY NEW SPRING TV SERIES ENTITLED, "HAVE BILL CAN, WILL SQUIRT".

AS I SEE IT

by CHARLES SCOTT

The Company is at the present time continuing their policy of violations of the Local Supplement. Seniority which is one of the most important factors in our contract is constantly under attack by the representatives of management. In most divisions we find classifications which have short service employees remaining while longer service employees are going out of the plant to the street. If these employees were indispensable, there perhaps would be some logical explanation, but as every employee has found out, no one person or group of persons is indispensable.

By exploring the motives behind such behavior, we can get an insight on what the Company is doing and what their ultimate goal is. It is my opinion that these persons are being kept not through any regard for the short service employees but instead just for their nuisance value; for each employee who is laid off points at these short service employees and rightly so. These longer service employees have the feeling that the Company has treated them unfairly and they are right.

No matter what weak excuse is given by different personnel men or by central management, it still boils down to the fact that the Company intends to violate the Seniority Supplement at every opportunity and cause as much disruption among their employees as possible and in doing these things, I feel that the Company is bargaining in bad faith.

Take for example L.S.T.G.'s stand on Cranefollowers Cl. A. There are longer service Cl. A. Cranefollowers from other divisions who have gone out the gate; for L.S.T.G. said that they were not qualified to do L.S.T.G. work. These men who went out were fully qualified and had done Cl. A work for years before they went to L.S.

T.G. These men were actually told when they went to L.S.T.G. that "You are not going to make it" and after a week in L.S.T.G. were told they were not qualified and sent out the gate.

Now to get the employees in L.S.T.G. riled up, LM&G tells Turbine Sheet Metal Enclosure men that they cannot bump Sheet Metal men in LM&G, because they do not have single continuous pass welding in their classification. Even though single continuous pass welding could be learned in a minimum break-in time, LM&G gives L.S.T.G. enclosure men the single pass test immediately and when they don't pass, the old cry is again heard—"You don't qualify for the job".

Welders with longer service than shorter service Pipe Welders are sent on the street because the divisions say we will not give these longer service Welders the pipe test so they could possibly qualify to displace shorter service Pipe Welders.

Of course, the shorter service people in these various occupations will say, "What's wrong with the way the Company is doing this", not realizing that they are being used as a tool to break seniority, and forgetting that when G.E. is through using a tool or person, it or they are thrown on the scrap heap and discarded. This vicious plan of G.E. is to use the basic fear of an employee, losing his job, to destroy whatever gains have been made for all employees in the bargaining unit.

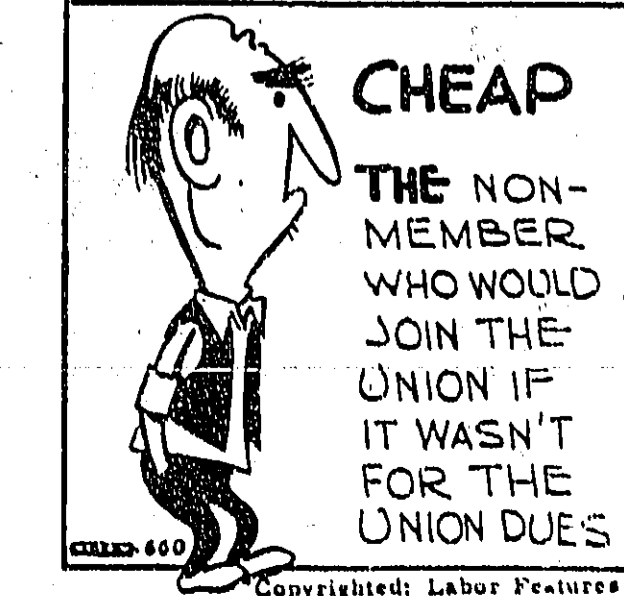
I am quite sure that these facts will never appear in the local press to point out to the community that the Company, whose slogan is "We do right voluntarily", has an underground plan of disruption with a casual disregard for their employees as a whole.

Grievances Settled Without Formal Meetings

Unknown to many of our Union members is the fact that many grievances are settled satisfactorily by the Business Agents on the phone. These grievances are filed in the Union's records as "A Dockets." They run in number to many hundreds a year. These dockets deal with many different type grievances, such as vacations, holiday pay, insurance, hospital plan, pensions, service, discrimination and many other subjects too numerous to mention. The record of satisfactory settlement on these "A Dockets" is about 95%. This is a classic example of the Union at work doing a job for its members.



SMALL People



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Company Ordered to Pay Compensation, Makes Second Try to Escape Paying

When Dominick DiCocco, Building 85, filed a claim against the Company for Workmen's Compensation benefits due him when he sustained a hernia from heavy lifting, the Company decided to fight his case. This required the union's lawyer to

prepare for a trial. The trial was held on May 7th, 1957. Through an error in Albany, the decision of the referee was not sent to the union's lawyer until November 27th, 1957! The decision was against DiCocco and in favor of the Company. Although an appeal must be taken within thirty days after a decision, the union's lawyer could not do so because of the mistake made in Albany. Nevertheless, an appeal was taken on the same day that the decision reached the lawyer. The Company's attorneys shamelessly came in to oppose the appeal on the technical ground that the appeal was too late because it was made more than thirty days after the decision was issued, although the union's lawyer could not possibly have known about the decision since it was never mailed to him. The Company's action in objecting to the appeal, after they had already objected to paying benefits is part of the "get tough" policy.

Argument on the appeal between the attorneys before the Board was held in Albany on February 4th,

1958. The Board decided that the referee had been wrong in disallowing the claim. It reversed his decision and ordered the Company to pay benefits.

Instead of doing so, the Company immediately made a new appeal to the Board for it to reconsider its decision in favor of the injured worker and to decide in favor of the Company. The Company filed a new brief in support of their new position. The outcome of the Company's second request remains to be seen.

In the meantime, all that DiCocco is asking of the Company, in view of the fact that he sustained a hernia, is for the Company to pay the medical bills for an operation and for eight weeks compensation benefits after the operation. These benefits for lost time would be a total of \$288.00.

It is obvious that the Company is willing to spend a lot more than \$288.00 to defeat an injured worker's claim rather than to pay him that amount while he is convalescing from an accident.

Company Yields to Union Demands

(Continued from Page 1)

movement but was unsuccessful. The members from Turbine were not to be fooled.

The following day the Negotiating Committee met with Mr. Stevens in an effort to settle the strike through central management. Mr. Stevens pointed out that this was a Turbine problem and they must settle it. He agreed he would try to arrange a meeting with them.

The next meeting took place on April 10th, in the Turbine Dept. There was a morning and an afternoon meeting with the Company taking the position that any work assigned to the Chippers and Flame Gougers such as using the penetrant fluid or assisting the Magnetic Testmen in any way must be done. The Union Negotiating Committee and Turbine management met again the following day. When no settlement was reached, the Union insisted that a meeting be held on Saturday. Arbitration had been offered by the Union with the Company refusing. The department said they would give an answer Monday on arbitration, but at the insistence of the Union they agreed to meet Saturday morning. At that meeting they also agreed

Attend Your Meetings Regularly

to arbitrate the case but with great reluctance. It may be the plan of G.E. to try to get each Local out on a strike over a local issue before the contract reopener negotiations start in an effort to weaken them. We won't be fooled by them if this is a program of theirs nor will we give up our militancy when we feel that the Company has an obligation to our members.

GE's propaganda didn't fool the community either. Although they used the newspapers, radio and television to try to fool the public, the facts are now clear. Turbine management by their own admission says the case is that they expect the Flame Gougers and Chippers to do any Magnetic Test work assigned to them. These are the facts!

A special Membership Meeting was called Saturday, April 12th, at 7:00 p.m., and at that time the membership of Local 301 approved the recommendation of the Negotiating Committee that the case be submitted to arbitration.

IUE-CIO 301 On the Job

Bldg. 49: Peter W. Gill who works in Shop Steward P. Murphy's group feels that his classification should remain Cl. A Cutter Grinder as there is enough Cl. A work to keep him on the job.

Bldg. 49: The group under Shop Steward S. Lupi feel that Mr. Willets by his attitude and provocative orders is deliberately trying to provoke trouble between the employees and their employer, the G.E. Company, by ordering, in an arbitrary manner, employees to work out of their classification in disregard of the safety rules.

Bldg. 52: The group under Shop Steward C. Winkler feel that by removing one of the battery trucks from the second shift, there will be a curtailment of service to the production workers and the accumulated material which will not be able to be moved because of lack of service will constitute a safety hazard.

Bldg. 16: The group under Shop Steward R. Cochrane are charging violation of contract under Article VI, Sect. 4B, in this instance the

Company is not limiting the change in price to the parts affected by the change.

Bldg. 285: Robert R. Hinman who works in Shop Steward W. Bielawa's group feels that he is not being paid enough for the handling of the 43" buckets and that there should be a jib crane installed to correct the safety hazard.

Bldg. 273: The group under Shop Steward A. Merendo feel that when the lowest service employee on the 3 shifts is removed from the group, he should be allowed to displace a shorter service employee in Floor Assembly or Erection.

Bldg. 49: The group under Shop Steward A. Benaquisto feel that due to height of the racks that the Battery Truck Operators have to service, they should be classified B.T.O. High Tiering.

Bldg. 273: The group under Shop Steward R. Bergin are protesting the method study on the horizontal bar in K-Bay. We feel that there is sufficient data already taken on similar bores and slots and this latest method study is unnecessary.

Bldg. 60: The group under Shop Steward A. Campana feel that employees who perform work should be given the vouchers for the work they perform. They also request that work be more fairly distributed so that one job is not continuously given to the same operators.

Bldg. 24: The group under Shop Steward M. Milkins working on 5/8 to 4 1/2 in. Hand Machine are asking that the grinding wheels in their group be dressed and new ones be installed where needed.

Bldg. 107: The group under Shop Steward J. Coonrad are protesting the maintenance men in the Varnish Dept. #67 doing the Steelworkers' job of putting up jib cranes and taking down monorail chain hoist. The foreman of this group claims the job is much cheaper for his men to do it and intends to continue.

Bldg. 18: The Union feels that the Company has violated the contract when they time studied the conduit boxes. These boxes have had a standard price for the past 18 years. The method which was used in the time study is also the same method which has been used for the past 18 years. The complainant in the case is Frank Matteo who works in Shop Steward C. De Marco's group.

Grass Roots

(Continued from Page 1)

Bargaining next fall is expected to focus on employment security provisions. IUE has charged that unemployment in G.E. where at least 25,000 production workers across the country are jobless, is a considerably higher percentage than unemployment in the entire electrical industry.

"G.E. is one of the most profitable of American corporations and the most backward on the question of employment security."

The IUE resolution calls upon the entire G.E. membership including those represented by other AFL-CIO unions or by no organized union at all, to close ranks in the face of this callous, arrogant attitude on the part of the corporation.

The union's program for dealing with layoffs and subsequent unemployment hardships includes:

1. The guaranteed annual wage
2. Severance pay
3. Protection of seniority in plant relocations or in movement of Dep'ts.
4. Restrictions on the farming out of work from G.E. plants to other Co.'s, and a program to handle problems created by automation.
5. Elimination of area and sex wage differentials and improved scheduling of work.
6. "A start" on the reduction of yearly hours of work without a reduction of yearly pay.

The Pittsfield meeting was the first in a series of "grass roots meetings" for G.E. employees.

NOTICE MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, April 21, 1958

2nd Shift—1:00 p.m.
1st and 3rd Shifts—7:30 p.m.

Report of Committees
Regular Order of Business

Union Auditorium
121 Erie Blvd.

April 18, 1958

Mr. H. Reed
Room 240
Bldg. #41

I usually feel that the scurrilous material in the IUE News should not be dignified by an answer in our publications. However, there is one statement in this week's issue about which an editorial should be written. It appears in the last paragraph of the third column as follows "..... problems will become far worse if we persist in the great American tradition of individualism the only practical solution involves guidance, regulation and supervision by the Sovereign State".

MLL:ss

M.L. Levy