



IUE-CIO NEWS

"IN UNION
THERE IS
STRENGTH"

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THE GREAT HAM ACTORS ARE AT WORK

The UE's statement that it will seek a 32-cent per hour raise for GE workers is the greatest piece of ham-acting GE workers have seen since the days of the \$500 package.

If this were a serious demand on the part of UE, why was it that the local UE leader said the demand would be 25 cents per hour, while a spokesman for the international quoted the 32-cent demand? If it were a serious demand, wouldn't both local and international people know the exact figure, and give the same figure to the newspaper?

The common sense of GE workers will tell them that this piece of melodrama has been designed by UE to confuse and disunite the workers. UE's record in recent years proves this. In 1948 and 1949, UE won absolutely nothing for GE workers. Through the efforts of IUE-CIO, GE workers received a 10-cent per hour increase in 1950, and those under IUE-CIO contract are guaranteed an eight to 10-cent per hour increase as of March 15, 1951.

APPARENTLY UE IS MAKING ITS DEMAND SO PREPOSTEROUS THAT IT COULD NEVER HOPE TO HAVE VICTORY, SINCE IT IS A WEAK AND DISCREDITED ORGANIZATION. THEN UE WILL ATTEMPT ONCE AGAIN TO LAY THE BLAME FOR ITS FAILURE ON THE IUE-CIO!

GE workers can expect this sequence of events in weeks to come. IUE-CIO wishes to make its position clear regarding this matter.

Since May 25, 1950, when IUE-CIO won the bargaining rights for 65,000 GE workers, the workers have made gains of 10 cents per hour in wages, improvements in the pension and welfare plans, and improvements in their contract. By May 25, 1951, this record will be improved by another eight to 10-cent per hour wage increase. That is a good record, in view of the fact that UE could win nothing in 1948 and 1949.

Besides this, IUE-CIO will be at the bargaining table again this summer, making improvements in the contract with GE, and in wages, working conditions, and welfare benefits.

WHILE IUE-CIO NEGOTIATES THIS SUMMER, UE WILL BE DOING NOTHING FOR GE WORKERS, BECAUSE UE RENDERED ITSELF USELESS BY SELLING OUT GE WORKERS AND SIGNING A TWO-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH GE!

THIS IS THE POINT THAT UE IS ATTEMPTING TO HIDE WITH ITS FAR-FETCHED DEMAND FOR A 32 CENT PER HOUR INCREASE.

WHEN ALL GE WORKERS ARE UNITED IN ONE STRONG UNION, WITH THE BACKING OF ALL THE REST OF ORGANIZED LABOR, SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WILL BE AN ACTUALITY, NOT JUST A WILD DEMAND.

IT'S TIME TO GET RID OF THE HAM ACTORS, AND GET A UNION THAT ACTS ONLY IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE MEMBERS!

IUE-CIO IS THE CHOICE OF ERIE GE WORKERS

Of the 35,000 GE workers for whom UE now has the bargaining rights, at least 30,000 of them are in the Schenectady and Erie Works. The remaining few thousand are scattered in service shops and small plants throughout the country.

But this by no means indicates that UE has 35,000 dues-paying members in the GE chain! In Erie, of the 15,000 workers eligible for the union, less than 2500, about 20 per cent, belong to UE.

Erie workers believed UE's lies that it would win the majority of GE workers before last year's election. But the workers in Erie aren't swallowing the UE line any longer. They are turning to IUE-CIO by the thousand, because they realize the need for a strong union.

And of the few thousand members UE had left in small plants, several hundred have been lost just recently.

The big service shop on Long Island voted UE last year, but workers there disaffiliated from UE to join IUE-CIO just recently.

UE let another plant go by default when it lost an illegal strike in Okland, California, and GE closed the plant.

With Schenectady GE workers turning to IUE-CIO in greater numbers every day, UE will soon have nothing left in the GE chain but dreams of the distant past.

HOW ABOUT THESE CARDS?

Many people have asked members of the IUE-CIO Organizing Committee just what signing the IUE-CIO card means.

It means that those who sign want to have an NLRB election held at the GE Schenectady Works.

You are not required to pay dues or initiation fee - - there will be no initiation fee, and dues will not come until after IUE-CIO is chosen the bargaining representative.

The card is not a membership card, but is an application for membership. GE workers will be given the chance to sign actual membership and dues check-off cards after the NLRB election.

The card will be kept strictly confidential, and will be shown only to the National Labor Relations Board. The cards will indicate to the Board that a large number of the workers want another election - - want another chance to choose the bargaining agency of their choice.

GE's Theory on Inflation

General Electric, which has invented scores of gadgets, has now invented a new economic theory to justify its announced wage-cutting program. President Carey told a meeting of GE Conference Board in New York City.

GE's theory, said Carey, is based on the discovery that "eating caused inflation." It works this way:

When workers eat they reduce the available food supply.

Therefore, if patriotic American workers want to halt inflation they should stop eating!

UE GOON SQUAD ATTEMPTS TO STOP FREE SPEECH WITH STRONG ARM TACTICS

LARGE GROUP WITNESSES UE GANG UP ON IUE REPRESENTATIVE SEES UE SUPPORTER HIT WOMAN

Last Thursday morning, in a disgraceful display of brute strength, the UE showed how it intends to fight the IUE-CIO organizing campaign.

Having no defense for the failures of the past year, the UE apparently intends to put fear in the hearts of all GE workers, and thus prevent them from turning to IUE-CIO to build a strong union.

What happened last Thursday is this. Allan Waite, a UE supporter, and one of his cohorts stood to the side during the leaflet distribution at the Subway Gate, and began hurling insults at a woman who was distributing IUE-CIO literature. The slurs were of such nature that this newspaper cannot print them.

Because of the snow, there were just two IUE-CIO representatives at the gate. Finally, they told the UE supporters to argue the issues of trade unionism, if they insisted on arguing, and stop their attacks on individuals. When they persisted, the IUE-CIO representative did what any man would do under those circumstances. He walked up to Waite and struck at him.

Immediately three more UE goons appeared, and five of them ganged up on one man. Finally, when Waite saw that his companions had pinned the man to the ground, he walked up to the woman and hit her in the mouth with his fist. As soon as this happened, these UE "gentlemen" got inside the gate as quickly as possible.

A large group of GE workers witnessed this disgusting spectacle of five men using brute strength against a man and a woman in an effort to put up an iron curtain around the GE plant. It was the second time in two weeks that a UE "gentleman" had the courage to hit a woman. On March 8, Joe Sococcio pushed and hit one of the women in an effort to knock her leaflets from her hand. UE apparently feels that women are easier to insult and beat down than men.

UE stooped to this method of preventing free speech when a petition to stop the IUE-CIO campaign failed completely. The petition was addressed to the General Electric Company, and requested that the company stop the IUE-CIO leaflet distributions. But GE workers refused to sign the petition in sufficient numbers, because GE workers do believe in the right of free speech.

Oddly enough, UE has stood by for many long years and watched the Communist Party distribute its venomous anti-American literature. UE has not turned a hand about this situation, because, UE claims, the Communist Party is entitled to exercise its right of free speech.

IUE-CIO has made this pledge to GE workers: This union will fight against the strong arm methods of UE as a matter of self-defense, whenever it is necessary. And IUE-CIO will fight as long as is necessary to help GE workers build a strong union which will concern itself with wage increases, not with insulting women.

We urge that GE workers have no fear. Basically, these UE goons are cowards, for only cowards would stoop to hitting women. We of IUE-CIO challenge UE's goons to fight like men, if they must fight, or not to fight at all.

IUE CIO ATOMIC WORKERS OF LOCAL 301

A. C. STEVENS

UNITY IN CIO MEANS HIGHER WAGES

When IUE-CIO was chartered in November, 1949, the average wage in the GE chain was \$1.44 per hour.

Today, through the efforts of IUE-CIO that average stands at \$1.63 per hour. The cost of living increase guaranteed to all GE workers under IUE-CIO contract will bring the hourly average up another eight to 10 cents.

Thus, after three years of nothing but promises under UE, GE workers are finally beginning to make gains. Some 65,000 GE workers are under IUE contracts, while UE still holds bargaining rights for 35,000.

Until there is unity among all GE workers in CIO, the GE workers can never hope to reach the average wages established by CIO in comparable industries.

Bureau of Labor Statistics figures show that the average wage of the CIO Steelworkers is \$1.86 per hour, and of the Auto Workers, \$1.81 per hour.

Workers in the steel and auto industries made these gains through unity in CIO.

Workers in the electrical industry suffered because UE failed to work with the rest of labor, but through IUE-CIO, this condition is changing.

IUE-CIO COST OF LIVING INCREASES RETROACTIVE TO MARCH 15

The cost of living increase due to GE workers under IUE-CIO contract will be retroactive to March 15, although the Bureau of Labor Statistics figures on the increase will not be ready until the middle of April.

IUE-CIO has pledged itself to try to win this increase for all GE workers, but it is doubtful that the increase for those not under IUE contract will be retroactive.

Management has claimed that it will attempt to receive permission from the government to grant the cost of living increase universally, since IUE-CIO was victorious in its fight to win such increases for its members.

Previous to that, GE fought against cost of living increase in every way possible, including using Charles E. Wilson, head of mobilization as their tool.

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 WINS RAISE FOR 12

Atomic Local 301's most recent victory brought wage increases to 12 men bringing all those in the Spru Department at the Knolls up to the top of their classification.

Increases ranged from one to three steps and were retroactive to February 26.

The local is engaged now in an effort to win a general increase for all AEC workers, above the cost of living increase, because of the nature of the work in which they are engaged.