

workers are on low rated jobs waiting to go back to their former jobs and, furthermore, the LST Dept. is in the process of laying off approximately 850 workers.

LET'S LOOK AT ONE GOOD EXAMPLE of the amount of overtime that was worked in only one group, the Winders and Connectors in Bldg. 11. In this group, where we now find (5) teams of Winders (10 workers) and (9) Connectors or a total of (19) workers, the overtime worked in these three weeks following the shutdown was a staggering 643 hours. This means that in this one work area, these workers averaged 34 hours overtime per man in this three week period. All this going on while more than 30 fully qualified Winders and Connectors are either laid off and on the street or on very low rated jobs. The service of these workers is from 9 to 19 years. Incidentally, only a few short years ago there were approximately 45 workers in this group. Is this how management treats its workers?

If you were to total these overtime hours for this three week period and divide it by 40, which are the normal work week hours, you would come up with an average of 1,631 hours per week or enough work to give employment to approximately 41 full time workers.

WE FEEL THAT THIS CONDITION was caused and still exists due to management's inability to properly plan their work load. We do say that if they aren't able to better plan their work, the least they can do is bring back these laid off workers and give these 41 families a chance to live better even though it might be only for a few weeks.

In conclusion, we might say that it is very hard to understand why this management couldn't have done the same as other departments which were faced with the work load problem due to shutdowns and vacation periods. We find one department recalled scores of people to cover their jobs during these summer months; another department, which manufactures motors of a smaller size, told their union representatives that they would keep hiring more help until the overtime ceased. Inside of this three months period, their overtime hours have dropped better than 75% and they have hired back more than 100 workers.

LET'S ALL HOPE THAT EVEN AT THIS LATE DATE, THIS DEPARTMENT WILL REVIEW THEIR WORK LOAD AND LIVE UP TO THEIR PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS OF HIRING MORE HELP AND KEEPING THE OVERTIME AT A MINIMUM UNTIL PLANT CONDITIONS ARE SUCH THAT THERE ISN'T A WORKER LOOKING FOR A JOB.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHOW TRUE WORTH

The same House of Representatives that passed the Landrum-Griffin anti-labor bill is still showing its true worth by passing Tax Relief laws for goldfish fanciers and operators of claw or digger machines used at carnivals or fairs!

ALL THIS INFLATION TALK IS A HOAX!

All this talk about the shrinking dollar and the "good old days" is a bunch of nonsense thought up by people who are opposed to PROGRESS.

The Dept. of Labor, in a recently released, 250-page study of buying habits, makes the following points:

1. The buying power of wages earned by the average worker was roughly three times greater than it was at the turn of the century.
2. The American worker turns out three times as much work in a 40-hour week as his grandfather did in a 70-hour week.

Certainly, the steelworkers wouldn't want to return to the "good old days" of 1913, before the union, when steelworkers were on a six and seven day week and put in 64 to 72 hrs.

The Labor Dept. study recalled that in 1913, nearly half the working force in the steel industry earned 18 cents an hour or less and deductions were made for ice water, credit in company stores, medical fees and identification badges!

And how about all the talk about how much you have to spend for groceries? The Dept. of Labor study shows that back in 1901, the average city worker's family spent 43 cents out of each dollar for food but 50 years later this proportion had dropped to about 30 cents.

It seems obvious that the Big Business propagandists have been playing the inflation line in order to prevent more progress by the working men and women in America.

They are trying to substitute the word "inflation" for "progress" but the facts won't let them get away with it!

FORAND BILL PIGEON-HOLED (cont'd)

live another 13 years while a woman of 65 has a life expectancy of another 15½ years. At the turn of the century only 4% of the population was over 65 compared with 9% today.

During the hearings, the chairman stressed the need for projecting the studies into the long-range future because of the great increase in life expectancy which has been predicted. This will result in a serious problem.

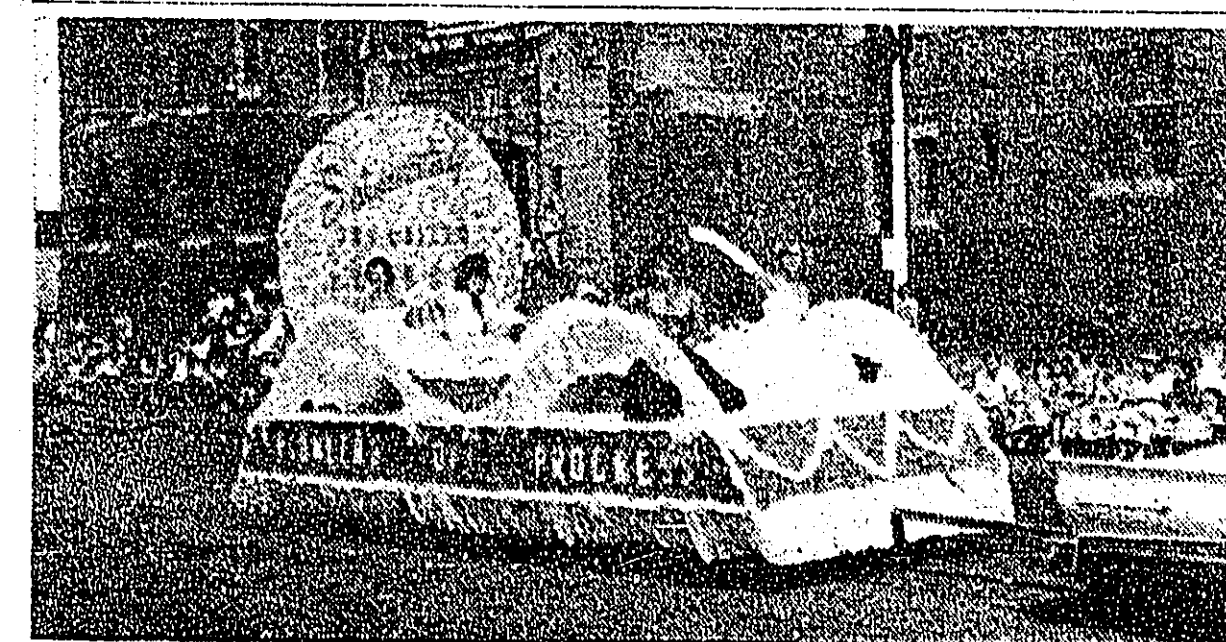
For example, while the average age at death in the U.S. today is about 70, it will be 82 in the year 2000. With further progress in medical care, there is no reason why human beings cannot live until the ripe old age of 125. If this dramatic possibility becomes a reality, and even if we just move in this direction, many of today's acute problems threaten to become aggravated unless action is taken.

LOCAL 301 NEWS

IUE AFL-CIO

Vol. 5—No. 57 The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y. September 4, 1959

Trenton Local Enters 10th Week of Strike



"PIONEERS OF PROGRESS" was the title of the Industrial Area Unions Council float with its four beautiful models which helped adorn the Sesqui-Parade which was viewed by over 100,000 persons.

MAC Toolroom Chooses Rotation

G.E. SAYS "NO!"
by Bill Christman

Again we find it very hard to understand the feeling of MAC Dept. management as it pertains to the well-being of its employees. By this, we are referring to their approaching our union representatives on the week ending 8-23-59 and asking them to check with their people to see if it were possible that they would again consider going on rotation in the Bldg. 17-2 Toolroom. Management claimed that they were forced to ask for this rotation cycle due to the present workload. Also, the vacation period was over and they didn't have enough work at this time to carry their present work force in this section.

Our union representatives, knowing that the shortest service workers in these groups had more than 18 years of service and also that the general conditions in the plant were bad, agreed to hold a meeting of these workers and request them to vote as to whether there should be a layoff or if they were willing to rotate. Such a pointtime meeting was held with these workers on 8-24-59, and the

results of the meeting showed that 50 workers chose rotation and 22 workers voted for a layoff. They further agreed they should rotate twice around which means each worker would lose 2 weeks work and then at that time they would look over the workload and make a decision as to what would have to be done.

Their Board members, De Marco, along with Shop Stewards Vitello and Pannone, then went to management and reported the results of the vote, and at that time everyone thought the problem was under control—at least until after the double rotation was completed. But, to these workers' amusement, this conclusion on their part was obliterated in less than a week by management's position to lay off in these groups and not to allow the workers in ques-

(Continued on Page 4)

Company Shows No Signs of Settlement

DELEGATES AT THE GE CONFERENCE BOARD in Washington, last week, called for full support of IUE Local 455 in their courageous struggle against GE's efforts at UNION BUSTING in Trenton, N. J.

The members of Local 455, IUE, have been on strike against the giant, GE Company, almost 10 weeks.

The issues involved in the strike deal with a number of grievances protesting the company's action in cutting piece-work prices and preventing operators from making day rates, and the company's attitude towards its employees and the Union by the use of threats and intimidation.

The local is also protesting the company's action in disciplining several employees involved in the dispute. Eighty-five percent of the people in the Trenton Local are incentive workers.

Just two days before the strike began, the company discharged the Local President, Louis Chiarollo, and suspended the Chief Steward, Russ Patterson, in an effort to further intimidate Local 455's members.

The Local stuck by its guns and is putting up a solid front against GE and is now maintaining a 100% effective picket line around the plant.

Danna King, formerly employed
(Continued on Page 2)

IMPORTANT!

Members who elect to take a layoff for lack of work, because no suitable jobs are available, should not sign any forms or statements requested by the company, until they have consulted with their Union Representative or Union Office.

IUE-CIO LOCAL 301 NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LOCAL 301,
REPRESENTING SCHENECTADY
GE WORKERS

Published by the Editorial Committee

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Big Business Conspiracy

THE STRENGTH OF OUR COUNTRY derives from our democratic way of life, from enlightened, foresighted industry and free, vigorous, organized labor dealing with each other fairly and co-operatively. Only through such industrial leadership and through such a labor movement have we brought about a volume of production and a level of living standards unparalleled in history. If our progress upward is to continue, if we are to remain as the leader of the democratic world, we must safeguard the interests of industry and labor equally and keep them both strong.

Yet at this very moment when our country is facing the most serious challenge to its economic and social structure, a campaign is afoot to weaken if not destroy our trade union movement. A group of powerful industrialists, blind to our own national experience and in total disregard of the threat being made against us from overseas, have concerted in a mighty effort directed against organized labor.

THE FIRST MOVE in this campaign of destruction was to create a climate of suspicion and hostility toward labor unions and their leaders. Through Congressional hearings conducted in an atmosphere of bias and enmity, they have over-played the activities of a handful of men who have perverted a small segment of the labor movement to their own corrupt ends, paying no attention to the fact that the great bulk of our labor unions are honestly led by devoted men and women deliberately creating the utterly groundless impression that corruption was general throughout organized American labor. Despite their righteous protestations, these committees have paid little or no attention to the improper practices of industry, choosing to forget that there can be no corrupt labor leader without a corrupt employer.

IN THE ATMOSPHERE OF DISTRUST created by their propaganda, these few but powerful industrial leaders, men of little understanding and less loyalty to American traditions, have carried on their work of disruption. They have coined misleading slogans such as "right to work" laws and "members' bill of rights" in order to befuddle and confuse and thus divert attention from what they were out to do. They have instigated publicity-minded public prosecutors to institute groundless proceedings in order to harass labor leaders and keep them from their work. They have sponsored legislation both in the states and in the Congress, aimed at crippling labor unions. Now they are ready for the kill both through Federal legislation and economic injury.

With the President as their ally and assured that his administration would stay aloof, they have thrown down the gauntlet in the steel dispute. Abandoning all pretense of genuine collective bargaining, the industry leaders in steel are standing pat, relying on the sheer force of their great wealth and superior economic strength to compel the union to take what they choose to dictate. The same tactic is being employed in other industries. Hundreds of thousands of workers are being denied the right to improve their conditions through voluntary collective bargaining honestly conducted.

THIS IS A CRISIS NOT FOR ORGANIZED LABOR ALONE BUT FOR THE ENTIRE AMERICAN COMMUNITY. The issue is clear. Are we to go back on our own history, destroy the influence and effectiveness of the trade unions, place absolute control of our industrial life in the greedy hands of big business? If this is permitted to happen we shall have undermined our economy and our national security as well, and opened the road to world domination by Communist totalitarianism.

OUR MEMBERS SHOULD BE AWARE of the danger. They must alert their fellow-workers, their neighbors and their friends to the true nature of the threat against their welfare. The people know that a free labor movement is the bulwark of our democratic institutions. Once they understand, they will unite to defeat this conspiracy.

Text of Statement released by N. Y. State AFL-CIO, Executive Council

Trenton Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

in the Schenectady Plant Labor Relations, who was transferred to Trenton, GE, has been heading up the Trenton management's Labor Relations Committee.

The strikers reported that the union relations had degenerated to an impossible level while Mr. King was representing GE there. It was recently reported that he has been replaced by another Labor Relations representative, but not until the strike was well under way.

The GE Conference Board commends their fight against the Company's efforts at intimidation and its efforts to wreck their contract built up to their present standards over the years.

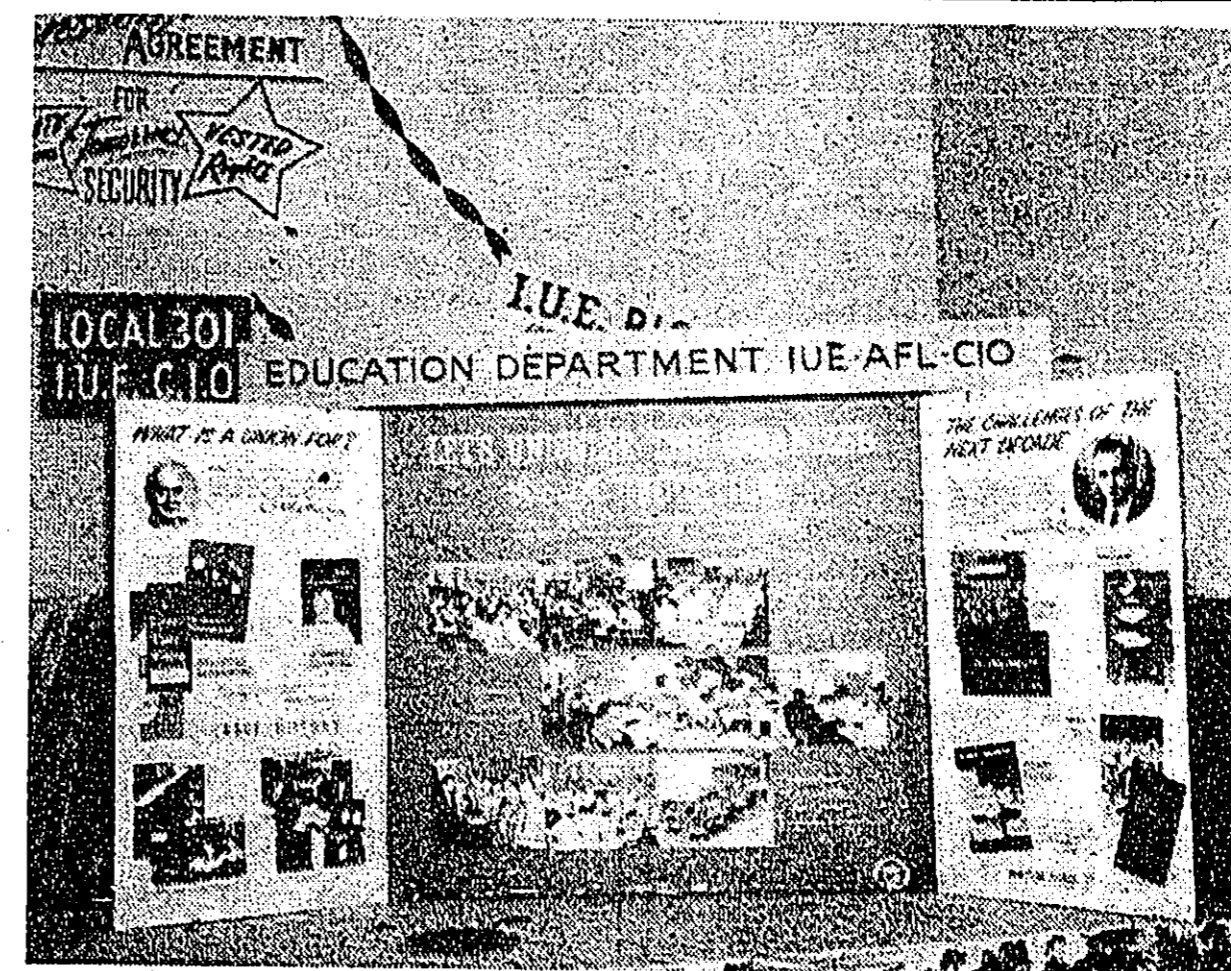
The company's attempt is a forerunner of the type of union busting ALL LOCALS in the GE chain can expect as employers grow bolder in their efforts to whittle away at hard-won gains of their employees.

Local 455 is now leading the fight against GE's tactics to cut the heart out of our contracts, and eventually weaken all locals until they would be unable to adequately protect their members.

The GE Conference Board urges full support of our fellow members in Trenton, N. J. In order to carry on the fight . . . our fight . . . their members are badly in need of moral and financial support in order to bring this strike against this giant corporation to a successful conclusion.

(Petitions requesting your financial support are being circulated through your Shop stewards.)

"Industrial and Economic Progress Day" is Successful



PART OF Local 301 exhibit at "Industrial and Economic Progress Day" at IUE Auditorium, Friday, August 28, 1959.

That Labor and Management can work together was witnessed by several hundred people who visited the IUE Union Auditorium last Friday, August 28th, to view the "Industrial and Economic Progress Day" exhibition.

Films covering Atomic Power, N. Y. State, the Jr. Achievement Program, Power and Freedom, and several others spotlighted the day's activities.

A scale model atomic reactor, and authentic replica of Bell's first telephone, quarter-midget racing cars, closed circuit television and other intriguing examples of Schenectady's products and progress were unveiled to the public.

This was one of the rare occasions where Labor—and Management proved that they could work together in harmony for the good of the Community. In other cities where this was attempted, the program was never successfully completed because of the refusal of both parties to forget their differences and pool their efforts and resources . . . It was usually given up in vain.

More programs in the interest of the working men and women in the Community would be greatly welcomed. Especially, a program to bring full employment back to Schenectady.

"I Thank You!"

Local 301, IUE

8/19/59

I wish to thank you very much for the scholarship you have awarded me. Undoubtedly this financial aid will help me greatly during my 4 years at Notre Dame, and I shall work diligently to show you that I deserve your help.

I think that your scholarship program is a great example of the trust and confidence your union has in American youth and this outlook, which is all too often absent, should be sustained at any costs.

I thank you again.

Yours truly,
Paul Graziade

The Welfare of Schenectady . . .

A LOCAL NEWS ITEM STAT-

ED that General Electric had underestimated the 1959 market for low and medium priced refrigerators. It would appear that those people who figure the probable market for General Electric were influenced by GE's attitude of making 1959 and 1960 "tough" years for their employees.

General Electric was probably fooled by those companies who made honest, realistic bids and secured orders for their factories, thereby providing work for their employees. How different the picture is when GE's policy of not

bidding, price gouging and price fixing on Turbine business is considered.

IT WILL BE VERY INTERESTING to see what line the Schenectady Chamber of Commerce will take concerning General Electric's deliberate plan to make 1959 and 1960 "tough" years for Schenectady and Schenectady General Electric employees. Since the Chamber of Commerce now has a General Electric executive as its president, we are sure that GE's casual attitude toward getting turbine business will be condemned—or will it?

IMPORTANT!

Members who elect to take a layoff for lack of work, because no suitable jobs are available, should not sign any forms or statements requested by the company, unless they have consulted with their Union Representative or Union Office.

Young Christian Workers
invite you to a
LABOR DAY PILGRIMAGE
4 P.M.—SEPTEMBER 7, 1959
at AURIESVILLE, N. Y.