

LOCAL-301 NEWS

UOE-ATL-CIO

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BUY AMERICAN DEMONSTRATION IN GAS TURBINE

The Erectors and Steamfitters in the Gas Turbine Department, Bldg. 49, have expressed their reluctance to wear raincoats because they were made in Japan.

The G.E. employees involved protested using the foreign-made rainwear when they were assigned to work on an outside job installing one of the Department's new package power plant units which will be used as an exhibit for prospective customers.

This incident confirmed the fact that General Electric workers are conscious of the fact that foreign-made products on sale in this country have cut into employment opportunities, which will finally mean less jobs.

The Heavy Apparatus Industry has not been affected to any great extent by foreign competition until recent years. In the past several years, however, products that are manufactured in Schenectady General Electric are also manufactured in several foreign countries. As a matter of fact, certain electrical apparatus, on which we made a bid, was lost to a foreign company.

The raincoats in question, purchased by G.E., in this instance bore the label, "Another Goodyear Import". Here we have the Goodyear Rubber Company, with a plant in Japan, manufacturing raincoats to be sold in the United States and competing with themselves and against domestic manufacturers. Even the tag on the raincoats read: "Printed in Japan".

A REMINDER ABOUT WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION CLAIMS

Every so often we hear of incidents where members, injured on the job, have failed to properly protect their interests and later lost out in the Compensation Court.

The Workmen's Compensation Law was written for the benefit of the worker but it does require that he do two basic things to protect his claim. If you have an accident in the plant, or suffer an occupational disease, you must notify your supervisor (preferably in writing) within thirty days, and file a claim for benefits with the Workmen's Compensation Board at 1949 North Broadway, Albany 4, New York, within two years from the date of injury. The fact that your foreman knows about the accident, or that you may have received treatment at the Company Clinic, may not necessarily excuse you if you do not file your claim in time. Even if you do not lose any wages, you should protect yourself against future difficulty by establishing your claim as quickly as possible.

There have been too many cases particularly cases involving back conditions, where serious problems did not develop until years after the original accident. If those workers had filed their claims in time, proving such claims at a later date would have been a much simpler matter. If you need help or advice, call the Union Hall.

ERIE CITY COUNCIL TURNS DOWN U.E.

The City Council has referred to committee for study a resolution proposed by U.E., calling upon G.E. to utilize the presently idle buildings in the Erie General Electric plant.

The chief steward of U.E. Local 506, who appeared before the Council, said that employment in the Erie G.E. has declined at an alarming rate. In an article in the April 21st, 1961 issue of the U.E. Local 506 News, the chief steward said they were deeply concerned with the overall employment picture...he said they
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SCHOLARSHIP FUND DRIVE

Petitions are now being circulated in the shop for contributions to the Scholarship Fund for 1961. Please give what you can to help this very worthy cause.

NEW METHOD---EARNINGS MAINTAINED

MAC employees in a new operation maintain same earnings under predetermined time standards.

Two years ago, the MAC Dept. re-designed a motor to meet competition. The new operations were put on development with an R-12 rate on Hand Taping and an R-16 on balance of operations.

The Union protested this action reasoning that there were similar operations in the department on an incentive basis, making it possible for the Company to set prices on the new jobs. Last September, management agreed to put the job on incentive with full group participation. This involved all coil operations.

The Company used predetermined time standards to establish prices. The group of Hand Tapers complained that standards did not allow for satisfactory earnings.

The Union representatives met with management. As a result of the discussion, adjustments were made to the original proposals whereby the Tapers are working with new time allowances that provide them with earnings comparable with other similar jobs.

The Hand Taping job is just one part of the overall operations in the Coil Group. The operators in this group, in unison with the Union representatives, namely, Board Members Wager and Koral; Shop Steward Rossi and Coordinator Christman, are to be commended for the part they played in bringing about a satisfactory settlement.

UNION CASE---PROPER MAN UPGRADED

In checking over the records, the Union Office found that a man with 4/14/47 service had been transferred from one Department to another from an R-11 job to an R-16 job. It was also noted that many workers in the plant, qualified for this job, with much longer service were working on lower rated jobs.

At this point, a call was made to the Labor Relations representative of the Company requesting that a longer service man be placed on this opening. The Company turned down this request and a case was immediately filed by Union Headquarters in protest of this move and offering the names of longer service qualified people to go on this job.

At a 2nd step meeting the Union negotiators were able to get the Company to upgrade a longer service

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had in excess of 12,000 hourly rated employees in 1950....today hourly employment is approximately 3,000. We have lost, said the U.E. representative, approximately 1,000 jobs a year.

We feel sorry for the Erie G.E. workers who have lost their jobs, but we cannot justify the UE's policy of condemning every other Union because they have not been able to stop layoffs. They made promises at Mica to restore the jobs and have preached the same line through their leaflets at other G.E. gates. We suggest they use some of their magical powers at their largest G.E. plant and help the U.E. Local 506 members to find work, rather than send them to the politicians for assistance.

CRANE OPERATOR GETS BACK PAY

Crane Operator in Gas Turbine receives retroactive pay as result of grievance filed by Shop Steward.

Recently, an employee was given a job as Crane Operator R-14. His breaking-in period consisted of two weeks. Since then, he has operated the crane without any assistance for two months.

The Shop Steward discussed with the supervisor the hourly rate to be paid to employee after his breaking in period...the supervisor's reply was unsatisfactory.

The Union representative entered a formal protest asking for proper payment. The Company's reply was that this job fell within the Progression Schedule and that payment would be made accordingly.

At a second level meeting the Union contended that employee should be paid the top rate of job because he was operating crane without any assistance; also, that Progression Schedule did not apply to Crane Operators.

Management finally agreed to pay employee whatever retroactive pay he is entitled to for the period of two months.

Credit for resolving this case goes to Board Member Di Lorenzo, Shop Steward Lee and Coordinator Vitallo.

man. This qualified candidate with 1942 service and an R-13 rate was found in the same group where this wrong move was made in the first place. Negotiating for the Union were Board Member Masterson, Asst. Bus. Agt. Townsend and Recording Secretary Roy Schaffer.