Delegates Report on Washington Trip

Over 100 delegates representing U.E. members from all parts of the U.S. arrived in Washington, D.C., on June 11, to meet with Washington officials on various matters, including the U.E. Constitution and other pertinent questions.

The meeting was held at the Hotel Washington, where the U.E. Executive Board met with the delegates. The delegates were divided into several committees to discuss various matters, including the U.E. Constitution, labor conditions, and other related issues.

The delegates were led by the U.E. President, William Browne, and the U.E. Executive Board. The meeting was well-attended, with many U.E. members from different parts of the U.S. present.

The delegates were provided with food and housing, as well as transportation to and from the meeting. They were also given the opportunity to visit various government agencies and meet with officials.

U.E. Wins More Elections

In an N.U.E. election at the General Electric Power plant in Rhode Island, the U.E. won the election by a large margin, ensuring their long-term success.

Legislators Battle Anti-Inflation Law

The battle of the American labor movement's efforts to prevent Congress from enacting repressive legislation continued in Washington, D.C. The House and Senate Banking Committee are drafting legislation to curtail labor and reduce the Defense Production Act which is due to expire on August 31, 1941. A new law is expected to be enacted by November 1.

The battle is expected to continue, with both chambers of Congress considering similar legislation. The Senate has already passed a bill that would limit the powers of the President, and a similar bill is expected to pass in the House.

We Want U.E. Contract Says I.U.E.

In a letter to the President of the I.U.E., the U.E. emphasized the need for a stronger contract with the I.U.E. The U.E. believes that a stronger contract would benefit both parties and ensure the success of their respective goals.

I.U.E. Loss Case at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory

The U.E. reported no further progress on the I.U.E. loss case at the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory. The U.E. continues to bargain for a fair settlement and is determined to see that the members receive the benefits they are entitled to.

Legislative Committee Displays Food Exhibit

The Legislative Committee of the U.E. displayed a food exhibit at the 1941 U.E. convention, showing an increase in food prices since last year. Using 25 items of groceries and meats, the committee proved the increase in prices.

The items used in the exhibit were:

- Bread: June 1941: 1.50 cents per loaf; July 1941: 1.60 cents per loaf
- Butter: June 1941: 60 cents per lb; July 1941: 65 cents per lb
- Sugar: June 1941: 40 cents per lb; July 1941: 45 cents per lb
- Coffee: June 1941: 50 cents per lb; July 1941: 55 cents per lb
- Peppers: June 1941: 30 cents per lb; July 1941: 35 cents per lb
- Cabbage: June 1941: 20 cents per head; July 1941: 25 cents per head
- Carrots: June 1941: 15 cents per head; July 1941: 20 cents per head
- Apples: June 1941: 25 cents per head; July 1941: 30 cents per head
- Grapes: June 1941: 50 cents per head; July 1941: 60 cents per head

The committee reported that they will meet with the City Council and the National City Superintendents to discuss the exhibits in order to get their support. They are also planning to hold the exhibits in other cities.

The food that was used in the exhibit was given away in two prizes. The first prize, consisting of all the food in the exhibit, was donated to the local charity organization. The second prize, which included the food, was awarded to a lucky winner in a drawing held by the U.E.

The exhibit was a success, with many people expressing their support and interest in the cause. The U.E. hopes to continue holding similar exhibits in other cities to raise awareness and support for their cause.

The U.E. also plans to hold a food exhibition in other cities, including Baltimore and New York, to raise awareness and support for their cause.
Employee Relations News Letter

For Circulation Among General Electric Management

June 22, 1961

The Negotiations

This week—90 days ahead of the September 15th deadline—we received the formal notice of UE's intention to terminate the present contract and of the union's desire to begin negotiations promptly on a new one.

Familiar economic demands are far from unusual, for a profit-sharing or so-called "productivity" arrangement, for lay-off and separation allowances and for the Company to absorb the $ per cent u201croy paid by employees toward their pensions.

Besides other customary demands, there are 119 pages of contract changes, one of them taken almost verbatim from the previous contract and from the current one. Our reply was as follows:

June 22, 1961

Dear Mr. Gove:

This will acknowledge your letter of June 15 formally notifying the Company of your intention to terminate the present GE-UEC (CIO) National Agreement next September 15th. You also make the familiar old demands in connection with a proposed new agreement, and suggest that we have our first negotiating meeting on June 26.

Previous commitments make us unavailable for an initial meeting on June 26th, but we can be here on the 29th or any day except Sunday during the week of July 9th.

But, if we have such an early meeting, we feel it should be largely for planning the desired we can hold later in the summer in the light of the needs their available at that time. We both understand each other in the old familiar non-economic demands you make, and our principal problem is to the arriving at a mutually satisfactory determination as to what, if anything, should be done in the economic area. Because of the obviously fluid state of the economic and governmental factors involved, it is our opinion that both you and we will be far better able to arrive at sound conclusions much later in the summer when definite facts are more readily available to us.

Because of the considerations indicated above, it will be our proposal that after preliminary discussions of whatever duration appears to be profitable, the negotiations should adjourn until the latter part of August, at which time both you and we will be in a position to negotiate a new agreement with more accurate knowledge of the economic conditions which will be current at the time any new agreement is to go into effect.

Incidentally, we are a little surprised at your outward desire now to terminate the contract with which you expressed such satisfaction only 6 weeks ago. You will recall that you were then seeking to extend the contract in its present form if we would agree to your economic proposals and especially if we would fix it immediately so that the renewal of the contract would bar other unions from seeking elections to get back the representation rights you had won a year ago and, again, if we would arrange it so that employees would be favored by us, through a Union Shop agreement, to join and remain members of your union in order to be permitted to hold jobs at General Electric.

But we are more surprised that certain of your proposed contract provisions were copied almost verbatim from the contract previously in effect between the Company and the union which formerly represented those employees you now represent and which provisions were made during our extended negotiations with you last summer. This seems to be a radical change from your frequently expressed desire last year to have your contract as completely different as possible from the former one you had so condoned along with the union which had negotiated it.

We can't help but recall your telling us only last week that the Company ought to reconcile itself to agreeing to your demands voluntarily done, as you asserted, you would be able to have the Wage Stabilization Board in Washington rule in your favor on these demands. In view of this indication that you are apparently coming to the bargaining table with the plan and hope of ultimately having any negotiations differences presented to some governmental agency after any necessary strike action, and in view of your statement at our last meeting that you don't propose to spend much time in negotiation, we feel we are entitled to some doubts about our negotiations being very fruitful.

Nevertheless, we shall approach these negotiations, as we always do, with the genuine desire to arrive at what is fair for all concerned. Certainly our every effort will be in that direction.

If you will let us know your wishes about the dates suggested, we will arrange accordingly.

Yours very truly,

L. B. Beall

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS DIVISION
NEW YORK