Injured Workers Collect $95,000 Compensation Benefits; Union Lawyers Give 6 Months Report

A report furnished by the United League, Dorsey & Diamond, for the first six months of 1955, shows that 277 injured workers received a total of $86,749 in cash benefits during that period. The Union Women ap- peared in 175 hearings before referees who sit in compensation cases. These hearings involved not only claims for cash benefits but in many instances also the right to additional benefits such as payment by the Company of special benefits for medical and surgical care. The amount paid by the United League to the injured workers during this period was $40,749 in cash and $2,749 in medical benefits. In addition to the cash benefits paid to the workers, the League also paid the costs of the hearings and the expenses of the workers to the extent that the workers were employed on the job.

Typical of the cases were those handled by the Union Women's negotiators in the field. In the case of a worker who was injured in a construction accident, the League was able to recover from the employer the full amount of the worker's medical and surgical expenses.

Another case involved a worker who was injured in a mining accident. The League was able to recover the full amount of the worker's medical and surgical expenses, as well as the cost of the hearing.

A claim filed by Norman M. Smith, Building 1, for injuries sustained by the Union Women in the heavy lifting performed by the worker, was objected to by the Company. After a trial in which Smith testified to the nature of his work and in which he declared his expenses, the League was able to recover the full amount of the worker's medical and surgical expenses.

Typical of the cases which are difficult to win is the situation of James C. Galbraith, Grounds & Buildings, who had a torn cartilage in the knee in 1953 but whose last reported accident was in 1952. The injured worker failed to take reasonable precautions of prompt reporting any more recent injury or disability as a result of which he could not yet again be employed. The support of the League and the help of the workers, however, made it possible for the worker to recover from the injuries sustained.

The League's success in these cases is due in part to the fact that the League is able to recover the full amount of the worker's medical and surgical expenses, as well as the cost of the hearing.

LOCAL 301 NEWS
The Voice Of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N.Y.
August 26, 1955

PLANT MEETINGS HELD

Members Approve Contract Proposals

In accordance with traditional procedure, IUE Local 301 members voted last Tuesday and Wednesday in the plant on the contract proposals. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of acceptance. The Executive Board members who were responsible for conducting the vote in the respective sections reported a total of 10,553 members voting, with 9219 in favor and 836 against.

First Year Improvements

General Wage Increases - 5% with 4.6c

Increases to day and salaried workers: 4.0c
Elmination of 1% on Pension:
Pensions and Insurance: 6.0c
Other contract benefits: 5.0c

Total: 18.0c

UE Behind to the Parade

In a radio broadcast last Tuesday afternoon, U.E. announced the original company proposals for changes in the Con- tract that were offered to the IUE committee in the early stages of the current negotiations. Practically all of the proposals mentioned by the U.E. representative to the radio, either explicitly or implicitly, differ substantially from the original proposals of the IUE. The U.E. representative that they were still dealing with the original proposals of the IUE committee.

Three Days' Leave for Death in Family

One of IUE-CIO's principles demands that employees have at least three days paid leave for death in family, and that the company grants the U.E. under the new IUE Contract. "Immediate Family" is defined as parents, children, husband, or wives, brothers or sisters.

Cost of Living Escalator Goes
One Way Up

The provisions in the new IUE-CIO Contract will cause an increase in the cost of living escalator. The new employment plan will increase the cost of living escalator by 3.5%'s. This increase will be effective on the next annual rate.
Cost of Living Escalator Goes One Way—Up

(Continued from Page 1)

living pays up over the floor of Sept. 15th, wages will also go up. The cost of living increases would be entirely adverse and beyond the annual general wage increases. Therefore, if prices go up, your wages go up—if prices go down, you still get the annual general wage increase.

N.L.R.B. Denies U.E. in Lynn

The National Labor Relations Board threw out a U.E. petition for an election at the Lynn Green Electric Company last Tuesday. During the negotiations between the industrial executive and the U.N.L.E.R., U.E. had petitioned for an election in Lynn. This move was contemplated to destroy the unity within the U.N.L.E.R. as the required application cards along with their petition. The local U.E. leaders in Lynn had some deep suspicions as to how the U.E. obtained sufficient application cards to warrant an election. Their suspicions were confirmed by the successfulness of the U.N.L.E.R. in the Lynn area, announced.

"It does not appear that further proceedings are warranted since the evidence of interest submitted by the petitioner is of questionable authenticity. I am, therefore, dismissing the petition."

In other words, the U.E. application cards were phony.

Proposed General Wage Increases

The following schedule illustrates the result of the annual wage increase, plus the special adjustment, made the recent contract negotiations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Wage Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proposed increases would be computed by using 3% to average wages, followed by the new rates for daywork and salaried employees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>New Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1.00</td>
<td>$1.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td>$1.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$2.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2.50</td>
<td>$2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$3.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ɗourtesy to "T." Tomskah.

Maintenance of Membership

The U.N.L.E.R. Negotiating Committee succeeded in getting the signature of the five main local of the Lynn area, announced.

"The new proposal strengthens the position of the union. In that it puts the company on notice that if the members are unionized, the workers must be unionized as well. In the past, there has been a relative lack of union workers who have paid their dues at Union Hall and worked longer than those represented by U.E.

U.S. at present is not in the process of attempting to obtain the N.L.R.B. decision was made. They received their shares for two years, at the rate of $40 a year, to be paid in U.S. effective dates and at least 4 weeks' notice. The new contract must be paid the cost of check-off. The International Board has unanimously recommended to the Constitution Committee an amendment requiring that all dues be paid through check-off.

Unionism Nearing in Baseball

A major League Baseball Players Committee that started out merely as a bargaining group has become a real union, according to Shirley Povich, sports columnist of the Washington Post. It was Alfy Reynolds and Bums Rice, who initiated the Cleveland Indians, who initiated the bargaining committee by hiring a lawyer to represent them in talks with the players. At first field of play by the Cleveland Indians, they were able to get a $2,000,000 settlement. U.S. now expect to be a force in the current negotiations. The players may feel they have a better chance by having a union to represent them in negotiations with the players.