Electrical Union News

LOCAL 301—I. B. E. W. No. 14

October 1, 1931

UNION OFFICERS CONDEMNING COMPANY'S PROPAGANDA

The union officers in meetings with Plant Manager, Mr. Lewis J. McNally, condemn the company's propagandistic publicity that skilled rates had received an additional $1 per hour. While it may have been the intention of local management to publicize the fact, it is the company's own propaganda machine that, in usual, put in an undue emphasis on the rate increase when they announced additional increases to skilled occupations.

The fact is that many skilled jobs did not receive any adjustment whatever. The officers pointed out to Mr. McNally that the company's application of this extra increase was applied indiscriminately without selecting a formula, rule or anything else that could be understood by the average worker. While certain jobs going down the wage scale to 1.25 per hour were increased, others that were adjusted only went down the wage scale to 1.10 per hour. Moreover, some jobs paying 1.60 per hour or above were not adjusted at all. The local management claimed that certain preferential rates would be wiped out, for example, the highest paid tool and die makers (about 70) in the Schenectady Works did not receive an adjustment, while the lesser paid still exist and the company refuses to wipe them out for the betterers, fellowmen and others.

The little note by the company justifying the additional rates was because in the past years the flat rate drop in the increase had created an inequality in the skilled trades and they proposed to rectify this injustice. The company's active may have had merit; however, instead of rectifying this injustice, it results into an act of discrimination and creates more inequality than existed before.

At this time, according to management, there are approximately 10,000 day workers and 8,000 piece workers in the Schenectady Works. About 3,000 received an additional increase of $8 over the 10% received as a result of contract negotiations. The union requested that all day workers above the automatic progression point receive equal consideration, but the company refused the union's request. The company's actions on this matter have perjured themselves before many groups of workers for an increase and these cases will be presented by the union. Likewise, the action of the company has provoked many workers. We don't think that the new speakers' bureau created recently by the local management can talk away this very easily.

VOTE NEXT TUE., OCT. 7

Remember you get paid next Tuesday all day. You should make the best of it by working, while you have won this concession through your Union, don't let politicians take your hard-earned gains away from you by anti-union legislation. Remember we still have Taft-Hartley laws. Remember we still have anti-unions tax laws. Do you know what one day out of each week you work to pay taxes? Remember your State income tax laws are inadequate. You can help yourself on election day if you vote and vote right.

Voted for pay by mail, Oct.

The union has been notified by the national labor relations board that our compliance status is maintained and continued until July 31, 1953. An agreement is made that is not the benefit of a few of the die-hard who are still opposing the Community shop, a conventional vehicle for the consideration of both sides and anti-union elements to use.