**Current Events In My Section**

By Allen E. Townsend

The IUE-CIO 301 officials have pushed their pet issues at the recent AFL-CIO executive meeting, claiming the union is working to improve the working conditions of its members. After briefing his story, IUE-CIO President John D. Walker reviewed the importance of the union's role in the industry. He emphasized that the union was ready to fight for the rights of its members and that its members were ready to support the union's goals.

**IEU-CIO 301 On the Job**

By A. F. Townsends

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**LOCAL 301**

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**Conference Board Report**

On 1958 Reopener

At a meeting of the Conference Board held on the 20th of February in the City of Washington, D.C., an important program was adopted.

1. **Guaranteed Annual Wage**
   More than ever before a Guaranteed Annual Wage must be negotiated. There are now approximately 5,000,000 unemployed. Many others are working less than 40 hours. These figures have been downgraded to lower levels just as the workers in the Rochester Tin Plant well know. A G.A. Wage is overdue in the IUE and this year the people stand ready to fight for an adequate plan in face of rising unemployment. Today more than 6,000,000 people are covered by IUE or similar plans.

2. **Severance or Termination Pay**
   The present contract provides for severance pay only when an entire plant closes down. The proposal is that termination or severance pay be provided for those with at least three years of service, with one week's pay for each year of service where the termination is not due to discharge for cause. Two-thirds of the 770 agreements analyzed by the U.S. Department of Labor disclosed that the number of workers covered by termination pay totaled 3,186,935. Not only will termination pay provide an income while readjustment is taking place but it will help to prevent plant shutdowns, layoff, and other unnecessary shutdowns. Termination pay will also help the community by allowing a worker to make an adjustment.

3. **Protection of Seniority in Plant Movement**
   The many workers who have been displaced and downgraded because of the movement of jobs out of Rochester will recognize the importance of this proposal. Workers who have seniority in the plant will certainly have a right to move to a new plant carrying their seniority with them. There can be no security of employment for the men and women in our industry unless the company guarantees the seniority rights of those workers.

4. **Farming Out of Work**
   The farming out of work is becoming more and more pronounced in view of the critical unemployment situation we all face.

5. **Handling the Problems of Automation**
   Automation is definitely a problem of employment security. There is no question that the company is going to use new kinds of skills which in many cases do not exist at the current employees. The question of seniority must be re-stated and the seniority protection recognized as it pertains to positive times. In this case, when automation is not available, no one can get these new jobs. We propose a training program to be set up as well as in the setting up of any automatic equipment.

6. **Improving Scheduling of Work**
   We propose that an additional be made in our contract which would provide that where there is a surplus in one section of a plant, no overtime will be conducted in another until all of the workers have been utilized in each section of the plant. We propose a training program to be set up as well as in the setting up of any automatic equipment.
The Facts About the Amended Unemployment Insurance Bill

The headline for the Scheels story War on February 20th, 1938 was: "Crawford Urges Jobs Fee Increase." Crawford was the author of the bill that addressed unemployment insurance benefits, but we are certain of his favor of the Anthority.

Spokesman for dynamic managed industry and some local business people say that the revised bill is the best that has ever happened to the workforce.

There have been many changes in the way in which the world operates and an increase in benefits from $350.00 a week to $650.00 a week.

Under the revised bill, a worker still receives $350.00 a week providing the average earnings are $999 a week in the qualifying period. For earnings below $999 a week, the weekly benefit is reduced.

As of now, the qualifying period for unemployment in the state would be 6 months. However, it has been estimated that the average employee would have to wait at least 10 weeks to receive unemployment benefits.

Some experts suggest that the bill would need to be revised in order to be effective. The bill was approved by the state legislature, but the final wording is still under discussion.

The bill is scheduled for a vote on the floor of the state legislature in the coming weeks.

S.B.U. And Its Effects on Communities

Many employers in the past year have diagnosed the S.B.U. (Social Security Unemployment) as a drain on their profits. Today, in Denver, Pa., there is a story for all working people to hear.

The B.U.D. (Benefits Under Disability) Plan, as discussed by the state legislature on December 23, 1931, carried a front page story on S.U.B. and unemployment. Because of the need for more jobs, the B.U.D. Plan was stopped working less than 10 hours per week. The B.U.D. Plan negotiated by the United Workers of America has been getting major credit along with the S.U.B. Plan.

The chairman of the Merchants' Defense Committee of the C.C. says that "With the S.B.U. in full swing, I think it's the finest thing the steel workers ever negotiated and it's helping considerably." On January 17th, 1938, the "News" (V.D.) also carried a story on S.B.U. In the report by its chief labor reporter, A. Rambert, the American Can Co. has noted the S.U.B. of America that it fink the program has provided greater job stability. In a report to the union, the first year of benefit distribution, the company set forth its belief that the plan could be considered a success.

S.B.U. is considered a success and S.B.U. is an concerted unemployment as they say they are, but until now have been nothing but to move jobs out of the city, they should sit down at the bargaining table in September and before and work out a GAWP Plan for G.E. workers.

Disabled Workers and Federal Benefits; Social Security Allows Wage "Freeze"

There have been a lot of questions at the Union Hall as to who and when a worker should "freeze" his wages with the Social Security office. The purpose of "freezing" wages is to prevent a worker's benefits if he is eligible for disability insurance benefits.

Workers will recall that the Social Security law was recently passed to make it possible for a worker, at the age of 62 or over, before the age of 65 to receive disability insurance benefits.

A worker who is determined to be the most important factor in his right to disability benefits.

Once the worker's "freeze" his wages by meeting the above requirements the free element involved between the Social Security office and the Social Security office benefits.

The Social Security office will then pay the worker a monthly stipend of $100 per month for 20 years, and $200 per month for 30 years, and $300 per month for 40 years.

Operation Apprentice Machinist

In answer to "Work News" article entitled, "Men, Jobs and G.E. (Trustee's Report)." We were led to understand that an apprentice was only a chance to be used for labor, while a skilled machinist could be used for labor.

We don't think we have the same interest in this situation. We don't believe that the current unemployment situation is being met by the government because of the need for more workers.

We feel that the current unemployment situation is being met by the government because of the need for more workers.