A recent case filed by Stewart Pacelli under Board Order 20 in the Kansas City area, asked for a one step increase for a Union member from the base rate of $1.20 on the basis that he was performing the full job.

The Forrestal's answer stated that the raises be increased from $1.20 to $1.21 on the progression schedule had to take a period of six months. This, of course, is contrary to the Union viewpoint and also the company's position in the past where they have many times said that if a man is doing the full job he is entitled to the full pay. The Union Office scheduled this case for the second step but before it could be called, the labor relations manager for the MAC Dept. called the assistant business agent at Union Headquarters and requested that the case be referred back to the first level for settlement. Stewart Pacelli met with the foreman at the first level and accepted the offer of the $1.21 rate retroactive to the date of the case.

This again demonstrates a willingness of the MAC Dept. Labor Relations to override their foremen and settle a case when they feel the foremen are against them. This settlement should set a good example for other departments to follow in the name of good labor relations.

EDITORIAL:

Foreign Competition??

U.S. EXPORTS were at the highest level in three years in April, delivering another blow at the myth that U.S. wages are driving the nation's products out of world markets.

Exports for the month were $4.8 billion, up 21 percent from April of 1949. Imports at $1.3 billion were up three percent from the same month of last year.

Productivity: Why

AUTOMATION and further mechanization accompanying the present climb in home in the nation are already being reflected in rising productivity. Preliminary government estimates indicate that productivity of factory workers was up four percent over the first quarter of last year in the first three months of 1950.

LOCAL NEWS

At Dayton, Ohio, the company tried a bitter letter writing campaign against the workers and even challenged the authenticity of 14,000 cards requesting an IUE election, to keep this former US shop unorganized but no one voted for IUE at Pogarty Manufacturing, 32 to 21, on May 11.

Management had bad things in store for years. It had so outmoded US that they couldn't get a contract or win a grievance, and finally gave up.

The company flooded the workers' homes with letters saying the IUE wasn't needed and that management's open door policy was far better.

When it realized its letters were having no effect, the company charged that the election request cards couldn't be authenticated and therefore an election should not be held. The IUE checked each card, then ordered an election and the workers voted to become part of IUE Local 795.

Local 795 now has a group insurance program paid for entirely by the employer. A bargaining unit of 650 employees, filed charges in Steelworkers against Clyde Electric Projects, Inc., of Searcy Falls, N.Y., the Board held the charges meritorious, and a consent to the plan, which bargaining is required, has been filed to complete the file and bring to a stop the charges.

A new group insurance plan that is now in operation is the SWC insurance program, which has been discussed recently in the local newspapers. The plan is being offered to all employees, and the employees who sign up for the plan will have the benefits of group insurance.

The plan is available to all employees, and the employees who sign up for the plan will have the benefits of group insurance.

Under the Democratic leadership of Lyndon B. Johnson and Senator John Kennedy, the U.S. Senate will convene in Monday, Aug. 8th, in an effort to pass several vital bills before they adjourn on or about Labor Day. The House of Representatives will meet the following Monday, Aug. 15th.

Among the most important issues to come up, will be Medical Aid and the problems faced by our Social Security System. A new Federal Minimum Wage of 35.25 is expected to be enacted and a new Federal Unemployment Act is expected to be passed.

THE Voice of OE Workers, Local 301

TURBINE LAYOFFS RECURRING TEMPORARILY

Local IUE officials and representatives of management in the Large Steam Turbine Dept. sat down last week to discuss the employment picture to determine what could be done to soften the impact of layoffs that are scheduled to follow short vacations sometime in September of this year. The plan will not eliminate layoffs completely but will reduce considerably the present reduction of forces.

The management of the Large Steam Turbine Dept. estimated it would be necessary to lay off 120 employees by the end of this year because of the lack of business. The Large Steam Turbine Dept. is the largest department in the Schenectady Works and provides employment for a large percentage of the local Schenectady IUE hourly rated employees. The steam turbines produced in Schenectady are the largest type of power plant equipment made in the Electrical Power Industry and are used by power companies and Government authorities such as TVA, to supply electrical power.

The type of skills required to produce this equipment is usually of a high caliber and the time required to learn these skills is years of training, justifying the high earnings for Turbine makers, which is approximately $100.00 a week.

The IUE Local 301 members working in the Turbine Dept. were concerned on this matter, and, as a result of a talk to the Local membership, an overwhelming majority voted to instruct the Union leadership to negotiate a rotation schedule that would provide job stabilization by reducing layoffs and transfers that would be generally scheduled in the Turbine Dept.

The Voice of OE Workers, Local 301