Top of the Labor News

Washington (D.C.) — Ten million people are now receiving paychecks every two weeks, including all day care and nursing insurance systems (social security) established by the New Deal with strong labor support. Expenditures to date are $151 billion for workers without dependents, $100 for married men and women with two children, $16 billion.

Wausau, Wis. — (PA) — Challenge by the United Brotherhood and the United Auto Workers of Labor, the Wausau city administration has been declared unconstitutional by Judge McAdoo in the Western District Federal Court.

Washington (PA) — The Supreme Court has ruled that in a labor dispute in which corporations no longer do business with factories controlled by unions, the corporations are not required to pay the employees.

Washington (PA) — May 20, 1937 — A new federal law, the Fair Labor Standards Act, which sets minimum wages for all workers, takes effect today.

Washington (PA) — Corporation heads of the nation's largest companies are to receive $1,000 per week, with increases of $500 to $1,500 per week, and the first $500,000 for the year.

Washington (PA) — May 20, 1937 — Businessmen in Washington are paying $5,000 per week for saloon and dance halls in the city, which pays $500 to $1,000 per week.

Red Bluff, Calif. — (PA) — Two men were arrested for violation of the new anti-saloon law, which makes it a crime to sell liquor in a downtown area.

The maximum of $500 per week under the new anti-saloon law is a total liability. The cost of the entire examination is only $60.00 ($25.00 for lab tests and $35.00 for the physical examination). This $100.00 fee covers the cost for medical follow-up (if indicated) for major or minor abnormalities discovered by the exam.

COSTLY? NO!

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COMMITTEE OF HEALTH CHECKUP

Union Supports Boys' Club Drive

Hundreds of boys who could never afford a vacation in the country or go fishing, swimming and exploring will have the opportunity to do so this summer however it takes a considerable amount of money to maintain and provide equipment and other improvements.

The Executive Director of the Schenectady Boys' Club has asked upon our Union and other organizations in town for financial assistance to support the operations of Camp Lawley.

The Executive Board and Officers of Local 301 have recommended that the Shop Stewards circulate petitions soliciting funds among our members in the shop.

NOTE LOCAL 301 NEWS

The Voice of GE Workers, Local 301, Schenectady, N. Y.

Aug. 3, 1937

Weekly Benefits in Compensation Cases

The Wisconsin Compensation Act requires that an employer pay benefits to a worker who is losing pay as a result of an injury. A worker must be paid at least 60% of his wage if he is injured, but the employer is not required to pay him more than $500 per week.

A worker is entitled to receive an average of 60% of his weekly pay, and should be paid 50% of his monthly income, or the next highest amount, whichever is greater. If a worker has a wife and children, the amount paid for the worker's wages is reduced to $500 per month, or $1,500 per year, or $3,000 per year, or any other reasonable amount.

A worker working at General Electric is entitled under the Wisconsin Compensation Act to receive a maximum of $250 per week for the first 52 weeks, and then a maximum of $200 per week for the second 52 weeks, and then a maximum of $150 per week for the third 52 weeks, and then a maximum of $100 per week for the fourth 52 weeks.

The maximum of $400 per week under the Wisconsin Compensation Act is a total liability. The cost of the entire examination is only $60.00 ($25.00 for lab tests and $35.00 for the physical examination). This $100.00 fee covers the cost for medical follow-up (if indicated) for major or minor abnormalities discovered by the exam.

L. M. & G. SUGGESTION PLAN

by Harry Williams

According to recent statements issued by L. M. & G., no award will be granted to employees unless it is certain to result in some savings being made. By identifying any savings in products or processes which are not in line with the company's best interest, employees will be encouraged to think critically about the impact of their suggestions on the company's bottom line.

The next issue will discuss the benefits paid to a worker who does not return to work after an injury. It is important to earn as much as he did before the accident.

NOTE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, Aug. 12, 1937

7:00 P.M.

UNION HALL

121 Erie Blvd.

Report of Committees

Regular Order of Business

ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS

NOTICE

Membership and Stewards Meeting

Monday, Aug. 19, 1937

1st and 3rd Thursdays—7:00 p.m.

Erie Blvd. — 1 p.m.

Union Auditorium

121 Erie Blvd.

COST OF LIVING UP AGAIN

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated that the Cost of Living Index has risen to 308, whereas under the UI-GE Contract, UI-GE employees will receive another small raise this week.

The UI-GE Contract provides that the cost of living adjustment is based on the average cost of living index, varying from 200 to 205 for 4-hour work, or from 10% to 12% more than the base.

Workers should figure their pay up to the normal rate and evaluate the result by using the formula to determine their gross earnings.

UI-GE employees must receive the following Cost of Living adjustments added to their present Day Work Rates.

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General Electric Negotiations Committee
Reports To Conference Board

In a two-day conference of delegations from General Electric Local 1 from all over the country, the National Negotiations Committee submitted a 32-page report covering actions between the committee and General Electric officials affecting the 1960 contract on Employment Security and the reports received from IUE-GE Locals on employment and local union-management relations. The following is a brief summary of the committee's report:

**Review of IUE-GE Correspondence Affecting 1958 Contract Negotiations**

April 8, 1960—

A letter was sent to Virgil Day, National General Electric Labor Relations Manager representing G.E. Vice-President Benson, seeking action by the following negotiators on Employment Security. The report stated we all agree the subject is important and necessary. The letter recommended the following negotiations point:

- The purpose of the letter was to avoid traffic in crises and serious possible disruptions between the Union and General Electric. The letter endorsed the IUE-GE conference committee, mutual interest in reducing traffic in crises and serious possible disruptions.

- A copy of the letter was sent to the conference committee.

April 11, 1960—

A reply was received promptly from Virgil Day, rejecting the Union's proposal completely.

The letter was filled with misrepresentations, not only upon IUE-GE, but on Organized Labor generally. Mr. Day's letter completely ignored the contract and its provisions for negotiations on Employment Security with the right to strike. The letter condemned the United's national officers, charging them with promoting labor disputes.

April 23, 1960—

The Union's National Negotiations Committee sent a second letter to Mr. Day, which was approved by a General Electric Conference Board. The letter was sent to Mr. Day regarding Employment Security negotiations; it cited them as a matter of the utmost importance to the Union and its members. The letter gave the following points:

- Mr. Day's letter was not returned.
- The letter was filed with the conference committee.
- The letter was filed with the conference committee.

May 17, 1960—

Mr. Day rejected the Union's letter, as set forth in a letter to John H. Chambers, of the G.E. Conference Board. The letter stated the Union was not in agreement on the contract, with the signatories.

Mr. Day's letter charged that the local labor relations committees, in a letter to Mr. Day, agreed to sign the contract; the letter was filed with the conference committee.

June 19, 1960—

The Union's National Negotiations Committee then sent Mr. Day a letter, which was signed by General Electric Conference Board, stating that the letter was not returned.

Mr. Day's letter charged that the local labor relations committees, in a letter to Mr. Day, agreed to sign the contract; the letter was filed with the conference committee.

**Employment in G.E.**

While the National Union has been having difficulty in getting unemployment data from General Electric, the reports that are obtained follow:

- It is estimated that 260,000 people are employed by General Electric.
- The data shows that 260,000 people are employed by General Electric.

**Price Increases**

The G.E. Company has been in the forefront of a campaign to prevent dealers from selling G.E. appliances at less than the list price. It has been found repeatedly that there is a great markup on the sales price that in some cases amounts to 40%. Many dealers and retailers have marked down the list price to give customers a break and still make a profit. The Union will do its best to meet such an injunction to prevent the mark-down of price.

**G.E. Advances Congress**

In a letter to the Washington G.E. Office of Congressmen, Mr. Robert Barlow, lobbyist representative for General Electric, stated that the G.E. Company has received a check from the Congress representatives for the advancement of the G.E. Company's cause.

**Insurance and Pension Problems**

A report from the Bureau of Labor and Public Welfare Committee, Mr. Mooney supported the charges that the IUE had made against G.E.'s handling of pension and insurance funds. He pointed out that:

- Every unorganized plant of G.E. represents a challenge to the Union, and it is in our interest to have the best possible pension and insurance funds.
- The Bureau of Labor and Public Welfare Committee believed G.E.  had improved its pension and insurance funds.

**Under the Walsh-Healey Act, the GME was successful in getting a number of minimum wage determinations on electrical products. In the case of electrical goods, G.E. has gone to court to prevent a determination from becoming effective. The minimum wages should not be set nationally, but should be set on the basis of community rates.**

**Automation**

For some time G.E. has promised that it would discuss with Congress the question of automation. The Union has notified the Company that the reports coming in from the local G.ME office show that the Company's promises of higher wages due to automation was not coming true. Instead the Company was attempting to reduce wages on automated operations on the ground that the new methods were simpler.

Mr. Day reported that in 1960 the average G.E. wages would be $8,000 to $9,000 a year. It is likely G.E. expects that 100,000 of its employees will be highly paid engineers, scientists and executives. A large percentage of the production workers will be left behind that highly paid group. The Company must make it clear that the plan of that formative 1960 top-level conference in which the basic wage will be determined is to keep the wages down at the same time finding ways and means to cut out some earnings. G.E. will try to eliminate incentive work if it is possible.