IUE-CIO CONFERENCEadopts Program

The conference adopted a program of five-point economic goals for the union, which were outlined at a meeting of the IUE-CIO Executive Council in New York last month.

A Six-Month Economic Program

The conference has been delegated the task of studying the IUE-CIO contract in order to make contract improvements, and discussions of the committee's recommendations will be held at the next conference.

The economic demands are as follows:

1. Establishment of the present laying plan which would provide the highest rate of pay for IUE workers last year.
2. Assumption by the company of the full cost of the pension plan which will mean two more years of increased home pay for the workers.
3. Continuation of a cost-of-living escalator clause to protect the workers against further increases in living costs.
4. An employment security fund which will provide severance pay for workers who leave the company for personal reasons, and will protect workers from the dangers of unemployment.
5. A union shop.

The matter of a straight wage increase now September will be considered at a later conference meeting.

The conference again went on record that IUE-CIO and its UE chapters will make every effort to see that no IUE workers receive the same wages.

The conference also urged all IUE-CIO members who are or who have been out of work to join the union, and to contact the union's executive council to learn more about the program of the IUE-CIO and to get more information about the future of the union.

THE NEW IUE-CIO NEWS

SHOP TALK

The situation in the Tool Grinding Department 273 is tense, and the workers are demanding immediate action. The company is unwilling to make any concessions, and the workers are prepared to go on strike if necessary.

AN OPEN LETTER TO UE BOARD MEMBER SID FRIENDLANDER

I have been told that you and your staff are not opposing the unionization of the entire company.

I urge you to reconsider your position and to support the union.

The workers are demanding a collective bargaining agreement, and I hope you will support their efforts.

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UE SELLS OUT TOOL GRINDERS IN 273

UE and Company in Collision Against Workers in Plant

Last week there came to light one of the most vicious attacks a union has ever made upon a group of workers with a legitimate grievance.

On Tuesday, May 15, some 120 men in the Tool Grinding Department 273 got together to present a grievance to management asking for an increase in rates. All but four of the men signed a group grievance, and elected four representatives to present their case to the company.

Management immediately refused to negotiate with the men, and claimed that they could negotiate only with UE on group grievances.

But these workers had found out what UE would do to their case. They had presented the same grievance through UE less than six months ago, and UE did nothing for them. When the company refused, UE let the grievance drop, the way any good company union would do.

This time, the men decided they would take matters into their own hands. They sat down and refused to work until management negotiated the grievance with their representatives.

Every man in the department sat down, UE started to do its dirty work. Bill Kelly, UE's executive for union president, issued a statement to the press in which he said the strike was an unauthorized wildcat strike. In the meantime, UE Board Member Roy Lank was working right with the company in their effort to break the unity of these men.

But neither the company nor UE had the success in their efforts to break the spirit of the men. The top rate in the Tool Grinding Department 273 is $1.66 per hour. For the type of work they do, these men are grossly underpaid.

The men knew this only too well, and they were determined to improve this condition.

UE, on Friday, the company played its trump card, Harold Barber, one of the four representatives, elected by the men, had his badge taken away from him by management. Right before this happened, Barber presented management with a copy of an unfair labor practices charge he had filed against the company on behalf of the men that very day. But management suspended him indefinitely anyway, hoping that such action would scare the other men into submission.

When the men in the department remained firm, management agreed to rehire Barber, on the condition that the department return to work.

But, in his capacity as trade unionist, Barber refuses to bargain with the men themselves, and uses UE as its excuse. The men will have to wait until the unfair labor practices charge, in which they requested the NRLB to force the company to bargain with them, is heard.

But this case has pointed out the glaring truth that UE is not a trade union, interested in improving the welfare of its members, but is a political machine as full of corruption and stupidity as any political machine has ever been.

There is one way to get grievances settled, and to win out from management. That is by returning to a real, honest trade union—by returning to CIO.
U.S. Sells Out to GE in Canada


LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The U.S. Electrical News has a new feature called "Letters to the Editor." This feature provides a platform for readers to express their views on various issues related to the electrical industry. The letters are submitted by U.S. Electrical News subscribers and are selected for publication based on their relevance and quality. The feature is designed to foster a dialogue among the readers and to encourage a broader understanding of the issues facing the electrical industry.

The U.S. Electrical News is committed to providing accurate and timely information to its readers. The editors strive to ensure that the content of the letters is factually correct and that it does not contain any defamation or harassment.

The editors of the U.S. Electrical News are always looking to expand their network of subscribers. If you would like to join the community of subscribers, please visit the website or contact the editors to learn more about the benefits of subscribing to the U.S. Electrical News.