

# VOTE FOR PROGRESS

IBEW LOCAL 134

JUNE 26, 1965 9AM.-6P.M.

CHICAGO STADIUM 1800 W. MADISON ST.

WARREN JENNINGS - Business Manager

JACK SHEPHERN - Financial Secretary

GEORGE BOHARSKI - Executive Board

JOHN HANLON - Executive board

ROBERT SYPNIEWSKI - Executive Board

SERGIO (SARGE) MANCINI - Executive Board

Dear Sir and Brother:

It is our opinion that our new "Contract" is a step toward the PROGRESS which we have been seeking, as you can readily see by the platform which we put forth during March, 1965.

IF ELECTED,

1. WE PLEDGE - "TO DEVELOP RESPONSIBLE PROPOSALS THAT WILL HELP BREAK THE DEADLOCK ON FRINGE BENEFITS IN LOCAL 134".
2. WE RECOMMEND - "ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO OUR RETIRED MEMBERS OF LOCAL 134 BY A CONTINUATION OF PREMIUM FREE HOSPITALIZATION AFTER THEIR RETIREMENT".
3. WE SUGGEST - "A COMMITTEE BE FORMED TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING AND IMPROVING OUR HEALTH AND WELFARE PLAN IN THE FORM OF ACQUIRING MAJOR MEDICAL EXPENSE INSURANCE".
4. WE PROPOSE - "A LOCAL PENSION PLAN TO SUPPLEMENT THE \$50.00 A MONTH I.B.E.W. PENSION SO THAT OUR ELDERLY MEMBERS MAY RETIRE WITH DIGNITY".
5. WE SUPPORT - "AN AMENDMENT TO OUR LOCAL BY-LAWS THAT NO CONTRACT MAY BE NEGOTIATED OR CONSUMMATED WITHOUT FIRST RECEIVING THE APPROVAL OF THE MEMBERS BY A REFERENDUM VOTE THROUGH THE MAIL".

Proposals based on excerpts of this platform were made at our regular monthly meeting on January 7, 1965 by Brothers WARREN JENNINGS and JOHN HANLON.

These proposals are as stated below:

In looking around at other hospitalization and pension plans, it seems that for the amount of premiums that are paid into our fund we seem to fall far below the benefits that could be procured for our members.

With the permission of the chair, I would like to make a suggestion that a committee be formed to see what it would cost to have a Local Pension Plan established, a \$10,000 maximum Hospitalization and Surgical Plan and to have our present hospitalization plan extended to cover our retired members without cost to them.



In view of the fact that the electrical contractors, during the past 19 years, have had the approximate savings of \$7,000,000.00 due to the exemption which they enjoyed and that they, to the best of our knowledge are the only employers in our industry who were exempt from paying the 1% contribution to the N.E.B.F. should show no reluctance to support this vital Local Pension fringe benefit at the MINIMUM standards which we stated above.

#### PAID HOLIDAYS

All members in the Class A group including apprentices should be included in the Paid Holidays benefit.

Since all Class A members are doing the same type of work, whether they are employed by an Electrical Contractor, the City of Chicago, or on building maintenance, etc., their work is subjected to competitive bidding. Therefore, in fairness to all concerned, whether it be employer or employee, the cost of this benefit per hour should be the same.

The Federal Government has amended the Davis Bacon Act to prohibit the occurrence of unfair competition due to the variance in the cost of labor in relationship to fringe benefits on any project supported by federal funds.

We see no reason why this Local Union cannot adopt this same policy.

Seeing as this Paid Holidays benefit was negotiated as a wage and in lieu of a wage, it should contain a clause in effect, "If for any reason the employer does not contribute the amount of this premium to the fund, he will automatically pay this same amount to the employee along with his regular hourly wage".

#### VACATION LOAN REPAYMENT

Our contention of this situation is that the amount of \$1,750,000.00 was borrowed from our Electrical Insurance Trust Fund (this is the members' money) to pay the first year's vacation benefit because our employers had not yet started paying into the vacation fund. Therefore, this Vacation Loan Repayment of 3¢ per hour is the employer's obligation and should not be shown as a wage increase.

#### HOURLY WAGE INCREASE

According to the latest cost of living index put out by the U. S. Department of Labor, based on a family of four, the cost of living in Chicago is the highest in the nation. The cost of living index of the I.B.E.W. Dept. of Research and Education shows a continuous rise since November, 1962 which was the time of our last wage increase. We are not due for a wage increase until November, 1966. What will the cost of living be then?

An individual cannot possibly maintain his standard of living without a wage increase over a four year period when his cost of living has continually increased over that same period.

We also recommend the wage of foremen be increased to a minimum of 10% over the regular straight time rate of pay and general foremen receive 20% over the regular straight time rate of pay. Competent management is most vital to our industry. The responsibility these men assume more than warrants this increase.

IF ELECTED, WE GUARANTEE - "AN AMENDMENT TO OUR LOCAL BY-LAWS THAT NO CONTRACT MAY BE NEGOTIATED OR CONSUMMATED WITHOUT FIRST RECEIVING THE APPROVAL OF THE MEMBERS BY A REFERENDUM VOTE THROUGH THE MAIL".

Fraternally yours,

WARREN JENNINGS - Business Manager

JACK SHEEREN - Financial Secretary

GEORGE BOHARSKI - Executive Board

JOHN HANLON - Executive Board

ROBERT SYPNIEWSKI - Executive Board

SERGIO (SARGE) MANCINI - Executive Board