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CWA Local 4340

Mobilization 2008

July 31, 2008

Now, we have an opportunity to learn more about the issues that we all face as working families in 2008 and beyond. The Free Training that will take place at the Hall will cover critical items including Health Care and the Employee Free Choice Act. This information is vital. If you cannot make it on August 22nd, call the Hall and let them know you are interested in additional training. Keep an eye out for those that can attend and ask questions!

In the continuation of "CWA History – A Brief Review", we explore what some well-planned collective action can accomplish, even when dealing with the government. Here is part eight:

1944: Dayton, Ohio Strike and Establishment of the National Telephone Panel

The continuation of inadequate wages and the failure of the Boards to respond to union appeals led to increasing dissatisfaction on the part of telephone workers. These feelings came to a head in November 1944, when Dayton telephone workers went out on strike. Within three days, the strike had spread to 25 cities in Ohio and within six days to Washington D.C., Chicago, and Detroit. At that point, the government capitulated and agreed to establish a national board modeled on the NWLB that would only handle the cases of telephone workers.

On December 29, 1944, the National Telephone Panel (later to be renamed the National Telephone Commission) was established. It had two members each from the public, industry, and telephone labor sectors. Its mandate was to hear and adjudicate all telephone cases and to formulate basic telephone wage policy.

The Telephone Panel was much more effective than the NWLB. By the end of 1945, when it was terminated, it had heard 55 disputes involving 180,000 workers.

Understand that we, as Union members and working families, **MUST** educate ourselves and make the decision that we will educate others in this election year. Our very future depends on it!

CWA Local 4340 Mobilization Committee
216-635-4340 or www.cwa4340.org